

Algeria denies confederation plan

SHARJAH (AP) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim has denied that his country plans to announce a confederation with Libya as of Nov. 1, a newspaper reported Sunday. In statements published by the Sharjah-based Al Khaleej newspaper, Mr. Ibrahim said what was being considered was Libya's joining the existing "treaty of brotherhood and cooperation" to which Tunisia, Mauritania and Algeria are bound. He said the "door was open" for Morocco to join that treaty as well, when the issue of the Western Sahara has been settled. He was referring to the Polisario-led movement for independence from Morocco in the Western Sahara, a movement that is backed by Algeria. Also if the Polisario gained independence through a plebiscite on self-determination, the new state would be welcome to join the same treaty, Mr. Ibrahim said in the interview conducted after he delivered a speech at the U.N. General Assembly. The Algerian minister's statement followed an assertion by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on Sept. 9 that a "union" with Algeria would be achieved as of Nov. 1.

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Finns, Soviets urge end to Gulf war

HELSINKI (R) — Finland and the Soviet Union on Sunday called for a quick end to the Gulf war and urged a more effective role for the United Nations in international conflicts. "The situation in the Gulf has worsened," the two countries said in a joint statement issued after talks in Moscow between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Finnish President Mauno Koivisto. "Finland and the Soviet Union reiterate their view that the war between Iran and Iraq should be ended as soon as possible and that urgent, effective steps taken to markedly reduce tension in the Gulf," the statement said. "Finland and the Soviet Union see as important all efforts to improve the U.N.'s role and authority, boost its effectiveness and make greater use of its facilities as a joint instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security and the developing of peaceful cooperation." The increase of terrorism in various parts of the world, including state-led terrorism, was also discussed during the talks, the statement said. "The parties resolutely condemn all terrorist activities irrespective of whether individual persons, groups or states are behind it, and consider it must be fought with all means," it said.

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King sends good wishes to Spain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to King Juan Carlos of Spain congratulating him on the occasion of his country's national day. The King wished the Spanish monarch continuing good health and happiness and the people of Spain further progress and prosperity.

N. Yemen restates support for Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — North Yemen has reiterated its support for Iraq in its seven-year war with Iran, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said on Sunday. It said this was conveyed in a verbal message delivered by North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani to President Saddam Hussein from North Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Mr. Abdul Ghani, who arrived on a visit to Iraq on Saturday, also had talks with senior officials on boosting trade and economic cooperation, INA said.

Sudan names new foreign minister

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan named Maamoun Sanadani as foreign minister on Sunday, the state news agency SUNA said. Mr. Sanadani, a lawyer and until now information minister, replaces Mohammad Tawfiq who resigned in Cairo in August. Appointed by Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, Mr. Sanadani is a member of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), as was Mr. Tawfiq who resigned on his way home from an Arab League meeting in Tunis. Altom Mohammad, a state minister at the information ministry, takes over the vacant portfolio there, SUNA said.

Fiji republic gets first formal recognition

SUVA (R) — The kingdom of Tonga has become the first foreign nation to recognise the republic of Fiji declared by coup leader Sitiveni Rabuka. Colonel Rabuka's Ministry of Information issued a statement on Sunday saying the king of the feudal South Pacific island nation pledged support for Fiji's new government. The message by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV was personally conveyed to Col. Rabuka by Crown Prince Tupouto'a Tonga's foreign affairs and defence minister, the statement said. Tupouto'a spent several days in the Fiji capital last week.

Scandal-hit German politician found dead

KIEL, West Germany (R) — Uwe Barschel, the former Schleswig-Holstein state premier forced to resign over a dirty tricks election scandal last month, was found dead in a Geneva hotel on Sunday, his lawyer Erich Samson told Reuters. Mr. Barschel, 43, went on holiday in the Canary Islands after resigning on Sept. 25 and had said he would return to Kiel on Monday to testify before a special state parliamentary committee probing the dirty tricks scandal. Mr. Barschel quit over allegations that he had ordered a press aide to hire private detectives to spy on the sex life of his social democratic opponent, Bjoern Engholm, in the Sept. 13 state election.

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King and Mubarak review Gulf and Mideast events

His Majesty, concluding brief visit to Cairo, reiterates call for Arab unity and joint action

Jordan sends summit invitations to Arab leaders

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein paid a brief working visit to Cairo on Sunday and held talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on recent developments in the Iran-Iraq war and a planned visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and exchanged views on issues related to the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on Nov. 8.



His Majesty King Hussein with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a short visit he paid to Cairo on Sunday (Petra photo)

Before his departure from Cairo after the visit, the King told reporters he was optimistic about the Arab summit and called for "a new springboard to preserve the Arab Nation."

"I believe and hope that the Arab summit conference will be a turning point in handling the Arab situation and in dealing with all problems of the Arab World," King Hussein said. "There should be a new springboard to preserve the Arab Nation in a manner that would confront all challenges which face us," said the King, who was accompanied on his short visit to Egypt by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Commenting on his Cairo talks which included a closed meeting with President Mubarak, the King said he and the Egyptian leader viewed the situation in the Gulf with concern and noted the need for Arab leaders to reunify ranks and adopt joint action.

Both King Hussein and Mr. Mubarak, who also spoke to reporters in Cairo, confirmed that they would hold talks with Mr. Shultz this month on prospects

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Iraqis wreak havoc on Iranian oil flow after new missile attack

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — An Iranian long-range missile fired into Baghdad overnight on Sunday killed civilians in a residential district and Iraqi jets wreaked havoc on Iranian oil routes with sweeping raids.

A Librarian-registered tanker was set ablaze and two of its crewmen were killed in one of the Iraqi attacks.

Four other seamen were also missing after two heat-seeking Exocet missiles fired by the Iraqi planes exploded through the engine room of the 239,435-tonne Rovra, said shipping executives quoted by Western news agencies.

Because the tanker was empty, sailing towards Iran's vital Kharg Island oil terminal in the northern sector of the Gulf waters, the Exocets proved more lethal and the tanker was "totally destroyed," according to the

sources.

They said that the survivors among the crew plunged into the water to save themselves and were later picked up by the Iranians and taken ashore to Kharg.

Iraq's high command reported air raids against three "large maritime targets," meaning tankers, along the Iranian coast, in the last 24 hours. Gulf-based shipping sources confirmed all three.

They identified the second vessel raided by the Iraqis as the 215,925-tonne Cypriot flag Merlin, also a shuttle tanker.

They said that one Exocet missile punched a hole through the supertanker but did not explode and damage was minor. The unexploded missile was still aboard, they said.

The identity and extent of damage of the third ship was not available by late Monday, said

sources, quoted by AP.

Shipping sources quoted by Reuters said on Sunday that six of Iran's 10 oil loading berths at Kharg Island are now unusable after frequent Iraqi raids, and another could only be used for shallow-draft ships because of accumulated debris.

But Iraq is apparently holding back from shutting down the Kharg operation altogether, the sources said.

"I am certain they could take out Kharg in 72 hours," one salvage executive told Reuters. "But if they did that, you would find the Strait of Hormuz so thick with mines that nobody could use it."

Almost all Iran's oil is shipped from Kharg and Tehran has declared in the past it would seal off the Gulf if its oil exports were

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Assad receives Chirac's message

DAMASCUS (AP) — French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond discussed with Syrian officials bilateral relations, the situation in Lebanon and the Gulf, French diplomatic sources said Sunday.

The French official was received by President Hafez Al Assad. Mr. Raimond handed Mr. Assad a letter from French Premier Jacques Chirac, the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported.

SANA said Mr. Raimond conveyed to Mr. Assad greetings from French President Francois Mitterrand and Mr. Chirac, and "President Assad asked him to reciprocate the greetings."

Mr. Raimond met separately with Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam for two hours.

Mr. Assad's spokesman, Jibrane Kourieh, said after the four-hour meeting between the Syrian president and the French foreign minister that "both sides stressed on the necessity of developing relations between Syria and France in various fields."

He said: "The French side indicated the high importance it attaches to continuing contacts and consultations between the two sides in the future."

New U.S. convoy in Gulf amid rising Stinger threat

DUBAI (Agencies) — A convoy of four tankers with a U.S. navy escort were spotted in the Gulf on Sunday amid heightened tension after reports that Iran was in possession of sophisticated Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

The tanker convoy entered the Gulf under cover of darkness, its air cover threatened by Iran's reported possession of the lethal missiles.

Airborne newsmen sighted the convoy as it moved west, past Dubai in the United Arab Emirates on a 880-kilometre journey to Kuwait.

The convoy involved four U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers and three U.S. frigates, the U.S. central command's joint task force said.

The convoy, the eleventh since the carriers were re-registered under the U.S. flag in July, started its journey to Kuwait from the Gulf of Oman on Saturday morning at about 0700 GMT, a statement from the Tampa-based command said.

The tankers are the 80,000-tonne Sea Isle City and Ocean City and the 46,000-tonne Gas King and Gas Princess, the statement said.

The tankers are protected by the guided missile frigates USS Klakring, USS Hawkes and USS Ford as well as the amphibious dock landing ship, USS Mount Vernon, it said.

The previous convoys have run

the gauntlet of high-speed Iranian gunboats and drifting mines. But this one faces a new threat in the infra-red guided Stinger missiles which Iran said on Saturday it acquired a long time ago (See page 2).

British newspapers said Tehran had bought up to 20 of the Stingers from Afghan guerrillas, who got them covertly through the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency for use against the Soviet-backed Kabul government. (Kabul offers to buy rebel arms, page 8).

In Washington, Senator Dennis DeConcini of the U.S. Senate intelligence committee said that if the Tehran report was true, he could not imagine a worse scenario. "Now one of our worst enemies may have one of our best weapons in one of the most volatile regions of the world."

All the American convoys through the Gulf have been incident-free since an inauspicious start when the Kuwaiti supertanker Bridgeton hit a mine on the first escort mission on July 24.

The Bridgeton is still in drydock at Dubai for repairs which are expected to be completed this month.

But Iran has vowed to avenge both the Sept. 21 U.S. attack on the Iranian boat Iran Ajr, which the Pentagon said was laying mines, and another U.S. attack last Thursday on gunboats which the Americans said had opened

(Continued on page 3)

His Majesty receives Senegal-Morocco message

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received a joint message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and King Hassan II of Morocco. The message dealt with bases for bolstering cooperation and relations between the Arab and Islamic worlds as well as with ways of further strengthening Arab-Afro relations, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The King received the message at Al Nadwa Palace Sunday from the Senegalese president's private advisor Haj Digeli Mbaye who arrived here on Saturday. The audience was

attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Moroccan Ambassador in Amman Abdul Latif Laraki.

An Arab diplomat quoted by Reuters said the joint message concerned Iranian attempts to export its Islamic revolution to Africa. "Africa has begun to feel the dangers of Khomeinism, which is trying to establish itself in small and poor African countries," the diplomat told Reuters. He did not elaborate.



His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday receives Senegalese envoy Haj Digeli Mbaye (centre) in a meeting which was attended by Moroccan Ambassador to Jordan Abdul Latif Laraki (Petra photo)

Masri: Shultz must offer new ideas for peace in Mideast

AMMAN (Agencies) — Jordan said on Sunday the United States should offer new ideas to inject impetus into efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri said Jordan had not shifted in its stand that an international conference was the best means to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

"When King Hussein and (U.S. Secretary of State George) Shultz meet, the King will stress this position," Mr. Masri was quoted as saying by Reuters. "We believe that if any progress is to be made, the United States must offer new ideas."

Mr. Shultz is due to meet the King in London later this week before starting his first Middle East trip since May 1985. He will visit Israel, Egypt and perhaps Saudi Arabia and then go to Moscow to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr. Masri told Reuters Jordan expected the Middle East would be high on the agenda of Mr. Shultz's talks with Mr. Shevardnadze.

"We believe there is still time for the conference to take place, soon if the United States can change Israel's position and reach agreement with the Soviets on the conference," he said.

Jordan, along with most Arab countries, wants a peace conference grouping the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposes the idea as a Soviet-inspired plot to force Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres backs the conference proposal, but has failed to muster enough parliamentary votes to force an election on the issue.

On Saturday, Mr. Peres insisted he would keep trying to convince his right-wing rivals to accept the proposed peace conference, and said he hoped Mr. Shultz would bring new proposals to help him.

Mr. Peres said Mr. Shultz's planned visits to the Middle East and Moscow heralded an important phase in world politics that could have a significant impact on the stagnant peace process in the region.

Peres aides have said that despite his public statements, Mr. Shultz was coming to Israel with concrete proposals aimed at convincing Mr. Shamir to change his mind.

Mr. Shultz has said publicly he does not intend to get involved in Israel's internal political dispute during his trip.

"I believe there are solutions, and I am trying to convince the other side here, through powers of persuasion and through the presentation of convincing facts," Mr. Peres said in an interview on Israeli army radio. "And I will not stop trying."

"Shultz must be coming with proposals," Mr. Peres said. "And it is possible that some of them will be interesting."

Mr. Peres said he saw developments between the superpowers over the next three months as crucial to chances for advancing Middle East peace efforts.

Violent Arab protests rock Jerusalem and Gaza Strip

Palestinians fight Israeli police over Haram Al Sharif • Gaza stages strike against shootings

Jordan denounces encroachment on Islamic holy site

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Palestinians on Sunday clashed with Israeli police and blocked a bid by Jews to enter the Haram Al Sharif in occupied Jerusalem.

Israeli police used tear gas and opened fire against the Palestinians protesting against an attempt by Jews to enter the complex that houses the third holiest shrine in Islam, the Al Aqsa Mosque. Police also arrested an unknown number of Arabs in connection with the incident.

In occupied Gaza Strip, Israeli police lobbed tear-gas shells and opened fire against Palestinians protesting against the killing of four Arabs last week near Gaza City.

About 2,000 Palestinians chanting "God is Great" threw stones and bottles at 200 police to protest against the attempt by Jews to enter the site of the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock Mosques, police said.

Cheysson, Israelis hold talks on W. Bank exports

TEL AVIV (R) — European Community (EC) Commissioner Claude Cheysson began tough talks with Israeli leaders on Sunday on demands that Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip be allowed to export, produce independently to Europe.

The former French foreign minister, in charge of Mediterranean policy in the 12-nation EC executive, met the Israeli agriculture minister, Aryeh Nahamkin, and the foreign minister, Shimon Peres, to press the European demands.

EC officials said Mr. Cheysson told the Israelis the Palestinians should be allowed to form a completely independent marketing organisation.

An Israeli spokesman said Mr.

Masri urges world powers to put an end to Israel's aggression

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri on Sunday expressed Jordan's deep concern over and strong condemnation of recent Israeli aggressions against Islamic holy places in the occupied Arab territories and affirmed that these regrettable and continuing incidents were as a result of a decision by the Israeli occupation authorities allowing a group of Jews to pray at Islamic holy shrines. Mr. Masri's statement came on Sunday during separate meetings with the heads of the missions in Amman of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. The foreign minister briefed the envoys on the incidents which took place on Sunday at the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem. Mr. Masri also asked the envoys to convey Jordan's stand to their respective governments in a bid to put an end to these aggressions. The foreign minister also reviewed with the envoys U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iran-Iraq war and urged them to take urgent and effective measures to implement the resolution immediately.

The violence followed an Israeli newspaper report that Jews had received permission to pray on the complex in violation of a 20-year-old understanding. Muslim religious officials said at least 50 Palestinians were

taken to hospital suffering from the effects of the gas. Police made many arrests. Arab shopkeepers in Jerusalem's walled Old City closed their stalls.

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Amal and PLO locked in pitched battles

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Palestinian fighters and Amal militiamen fought close-quarter battles under heavy artillery cover on Sunday for control of two strategic hilltop villages in South Lebanon.

The sound of shellfire echoed in nearby Sidon as Amal militiamen and Palestinians traded machinegun, rocket and mortar fire across the battle-scarred streets of Baysour and Muharbiye.

Guns entrenched on pine-clad hills around the villages pounded opposite slopes with artillery shells.

Witnesses at Baysour said rounds slammed into the village at the rate of 20 a minute. "One shell fell near a group of Palestinians, wounding two, who were dragged out under very heavy machinegun cover," said one witness.

Police reported five men wounded on each side. Amal sources told Reuters the militia regained control of Muharbiye from the Palestinians in the battles and its fighters were advancing on Baysour.

The flare-up is the latest in a three-year war between the two sides over Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and the south in which 2,500 people have died.

The villages command 'Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian camp and a strategic stretch of highway linking Sidon to the ancient port of Tyre to the south.

Amal and its Syrian backers accuse Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat of trying to use the camps to regain the military foothold in Lebanon the PLO lost with the 1982 Israeli invasion.

"If Amal gains total control of the villages it will have its fighters closer to the camps," a Palestinian source said.

49, including 36 tourists, killed in Burmese crash

RANGOON (Agencies) — A Burma Airways jet exploded in the air and crashed Sunday near the central Burmese city of Pagan, killing all 49 people aboard, including 36 foreign tourists, the government said.

The official Burmese News Agency said the plane crashed 32 kilometres southeast of Pagan after it had burst into flames. It said the victims included 36 foreigners, nine Burmese passengers and four crew members.

The brief announcement did not give the cause or any other details of the crash, the second fatal accident involving the flag carrier in less than four months.

Airline sources earlier had said there were 45 people on board.

The sources, quoted by AP, said the Fokker Friendship 27 jet was on a two-hour, regularly scheduled flight from Pagan to Rangoon, the national capital, about 490 kilometres to the south.

They said the foreign victims included 14 Americans, seven Swiss nationals, five Britons, four Australians, three West Germans,

two French citizens and one Thai. Like many flights in this former British colony of about 32 million people, where vast distances are linked by poor road and a slow train network, the twin-engine turboprop plane was full.

In June another Fokker Friendship of the ageing Burma Airways fleet crashed into a ridge near the north eastern town of Taunggyi, killing all 45 people on board.

Burma, once the wealthiest state in South-East Asia, has fallen on hard times after 25 years of tight state control under a strongman Ne Win and has had no chance of modernising its air network.

The country earns valuable hard currency from the tourists who visit its magnificent Buddhist shrines. Official statistics show more than 36,000 tourists visited last year.

Pagan, once the walled capital of an ancient Burmese state, stands in an area of dry land cut by the Irrawaddy River in the northern central region.

Reagan warns Congress against meddling in Gulf

U.S. President: 'You can't have 535 Secretaries of State'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan sent letters to congressional leaders Saturday saying the United States took "limited defensive action" in connection with the navy's firing on Iranian gunboats and said "we regard this incident as closed."

Mr. Reagan was informing Congress of the developments in the Gulf earlier last week under a provision of the war powers resolution, although he stopped short of the formal notification procedure that many lawmakers have been demanding.

That provision, when invoked, gives the House and Senate a say in the further conduct of a military operation involving U.S. forces, and can even result in the Congress vetoing a continuation of such an operation.

The section of the act in dispute involves a requirement that a president notify Congress whenever American forces are put into a situation of "imminent hostility."

Mr. Reagan and other administration officials, and Mr. Reagan's predecessors in recent years, have refused to accept that provision, maintaining that it imposes an unconstitutional infringement on the president's authority as commander-in-chief of U.S. military forces.

In the letters Saturday to congressional leaders, Mr. Reagan

said that "although they (U.S. personnel) will remain prepared to take any additional defensive action necessary to protect U.S. forces and U.S. lives, there has been no further hostile action by Iranian forces and we regard this incident as closed."

President Reagan warned Congress against meddling in his Gulf policy, saying it would shake the confidence and trust of U.S. allies in the region.

"You can't have 535 secretaries of state," Reagan said in a reference to the 100 Senators and 434 members of the House of Representatives.

"If they should pass something that suggests that they can remove our forces from the Gulf ... what confidence and trust will our allies (have) over there?" the president said in a television interview recorded on Friday and aired on Saturday.

They'll think of us as an ally that can't be trusted."

Congress is pushing Mr. Reagan to invoke the War Powers Act, which would allow Congress to decide whether the force of near-

ly 30 U.S. Navy ships in the Gulf should remain there.

Mr. Reagan, whose decision earlier this year to place 11 Kuwaiti tankers under U.S. protection in the Gulf is deeply controversial in Congress, repeated his view that the 1973 War Powers Act violates the U.S. constitution by restricting the foreign policy-making powers of the president.

"We think it's illegal," he said. "We think U.S. forces are in the Gulf to keep the waterway open to international shipping in the face of attacks from both sides in the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war."

Iran views American protection of Kuwaiti ships as a tilt towards Iraq, Kuwait supports Iraq in the Gulf war.

Fresh concern in Congress over the U.S. forces in the Gulf was sparked when American helicopters clashed with Iranian naval forces on Thursday night.

The helicopters fired on three Iranian boats, sinking one, in what the U.S. Defence Department said was a retaliatory strike. Iran said the U.S. helicopters fired without provocation.

"We'll continue our operations in the same non-provocative way. The Iranians should realize that firing at a U.S. target will result in self-defence," State Depart-

ment Spokesman Charles Redman told reporters on Friday.

"We are following up after this most recent incident and warning the government of Iran that it bears the consequences of such actions."

The Pentagon said two Iranians were killed and four wounded in the Thursday clash. The dead and wounded were transferred to a U.S. Navy vessel and the International Red Crescent Society was arranging their repatriation to Iran, officials said.

The Washington Post on Saturday reported U.S. government sources said one of the Afghan rebel groups to whom the U.S. has supplied hundreds of Stinger missiles may have sold some to the Iranians.

The Pentagon said it did not know how the Iranians could have obtained the missiles, and was investigating.

Washington has sold Stingers to Saudi Arabia but such sales are conducted under strict safeguards to guard against re-sale or unauthorized use.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said on Friday the United States sought no war with Iran but would use its military power to "teach lessons" to Iranian forces that tried to disrupt Gulf navigation.

Libya says Chad hires mercenaries

BEIRUT (R) — Libya said on Sunday that mercenaries from African and European countries had arrived in Chad to fight on the front line in the two countries' border conflict.

The official Libyan news agency JANA, monitored in Beirut, quoted reliable sources for the allegation in a dispatch from Paris.

It said 400 mercenaries from Zaire "arrived in Chad recently and deployed in the extreme north of Chad on the border with Libya."

The sources added that more mercenaries had arrived from Belgium, France and other countries with doctors' identity cards and have joined the Zairean mercenaries," it said.

The group included 10 Israelis, it said.

The two neighbouring countries agreed on September 11 to a ceasefire after four weeks of fighting over the disputed Aouzou border strip. Chad has accused Libya of repeatedly breaching its airspace.

A London-based Saudi newspaper quoted Algerian officials as saying on Saturday Libya would join a 1985 friendship treaty between Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania next month.

The daily Asharq Al Awsat, also published in Morocco, Egypt, and several Western countries, said the officials whom it did not name were commenting on press reports that an Algerian-Libyan union would be announced on November 1.

U.S. satisfied with Arab facilities for U.S. Navy

ABU DHABI (AP) — U.S. Energy Secretary John H. Herrington said Sunday the United States is generally satisfied with facilities offered by Arab Gulf states to U.S. naval units patrolling the region.

Addressing a press conference during his visit to the United Arab Emirates, Mr. Herrington said: "We are getting what we need such as ship repairs and logistics ... we are generally satisfied."

Officials in Gulf Arab states that neighbour warring Iraq and Iran often affirm that as a principle they do not extend land or air bases to the U.S. Navy.

The New York Times reported this week that the U.S. Navy was quietly receiving military and intelligence support from the oil producers of the region, out of the hope of containing Iran's threat to international shipping in the Gulf waterway.

The Times said that so far this cooperation has included storage installations for weapons, lubricants, jet fuel, medicine, port-call privileges and substantial military cooperation supported by an extensive exchange of AWA/CSS-layed intelligence data among the United States, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait and Qatar.

The U.S. Energy Secretary, who arrived Saturday for a three-day visit on the fifth leg of an eight-nation Middle East tour, affirmed the U.S. administration's commitment to guarantee free flow of Gulf oil to the west. "We are committed to free

open access to international waters, and plan to stick to our friends in the Gulf and plan to meet our commitment," he said.

Replied to a question, Mr. Herrington reacted to mounting criticism in the U.S. Congress of President Ronald Reagan's Gulf policy, saying: "The Reagan administration's commitment to foreign policy in the Gulf needs to rely on stable long-term policy."

Expressing his administration's satisfaction with the support to the Gulf policy from western states and Japan, Mr. Herrington described as "a good start" a Japanese plan to support freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

Japan last week said it was providing a \$10 million navigation system to guide shipping safely through the bazaar of the Gulf sea lanes. Five western powers are contributing warship and mine sweepers to the U.S.-led effort to provide escort squadrons for commercial

vessels against Iranian shipping threats and to clear regional waters of the threat of mines.

Asked about reports that Kuwait was upset about the slow movement of U.S. Navy escorted tankers it refueled with the stars and stripes, Mr. Herrington said "the general impression is satisfactory. Things are going well and Kuwait appreciates the plan."

He said the United States had no plans at present to extend the protection of its naval forces to vessels other than U.S. flag tankers. "Our ships have the right to stay in the Gulf and we are here to protect that right," he said.

On the effect of stable oil prices on U.S. domestic production, Mr. Herrington said "the domestic producer is doing better since oil prices came to \$18 per barrel."

He said the cost of producing a barrel of oil in the United States was around \$13.5 and low world oil prices had meant "some very bad times for the U.S. domestic oil producers."

Ozal faces critical week as political crisis deepens

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal faces a critical week following a court ruling that has created a deepening political crisis only weeks before a planned general election.

There is no immediate threat to Mr. Ozal, architect of Turkey's economic liberalisation and moves towards western Europe, but the chaos could erode his position if it drags on, political sources said on Sunday.

Leaders of the three main opposition parties, accusing Ozal of trying to flout the constitution, have demanded the recall of parliament on Tuesday to postpone the November 1 election.

Mr. Ozal accused the three men, including ex-premier Bulent Ecevit and Suleyman Demirel, of tactics that led to political chaos in the 1970s and a third period of army rule in 20 years.

"Do they think they will go back to the 1970s?" Mr. Ozal asked reporters in Istanbul on Saturday night. "Let my people know there will be an election on November 1."

Erdal Inonu, head of the main

opposition Social Democrat Populist Party (SDPP) who met Mr. Demirel and Mr. Ecevit in the parliament building, said: "We are not playing poker. We are seriously trying to shoulder our responsibilities."

The sources said the opposition was also considering a confidence vote in Mr. Ozal's conservative Motherland Party and, as a trump card, an election boycott if the date was not changed.

The constitutional court, acting on opposition requests, annulled on Friday a clause in the election law, effectively negating lists of candidates which the high election board was expected to announce on Wednesday.

Under the law passed last month by parliament, where Mr. Ozal controls 250 of the 400 seats, candidates were selected by party executive boards, causing outcry in many constituencies.

The court's ruling, which is final, means selection should be done through party primary polls, a process that could take more than one month.

Handicapped Lebanese to march for peace

BEIRUT (R) — People crippled or hindered in Lebanon's civil war will stage an unprecedented four-day march across the country this week to protest against 12 years of strife that has maimed some 50,000 people.

A spokesman for the Lebanese handicapped movement, supervising the march, told Reuters: "This is a demonstration for peace and human rights in Lebanon."

More than 75 Christians and Muslims all badly injured in the war, will start off on Monday from the northern town of Halba

and reach the ancient southern port town of Tyre on Thursday, he said.

Many will be in wheelchairs or on crutches. Other disabled people are expected to join them on the 180-kilometre (110-mile) route.

"The handicapped will announce their rejection of violence and will call on the Lebanese to unite to end the war," the spokesman said.

The demonstrators will also protest against a worsening economic crisis and call for an end to poverty.

Wounded Iranians improving aboard American ship

ABOARD USS LA SALLE IN THE GULF (AP) — Four Iranians wounded when U.S. helicopters attacked three Iranian patrol boats in the northern Gulf were continuing to improve under the care of a special U.S. medical team aboard the landing ship USS LaSalle.

U.S. Navy officials said Saturday that one of the four injured Thursday night, was in guarded condition and in an intensive care unit with extensive burns. His prognosis for recovery was described as fair.

The other three have been upgraded to stable condition and their prospects for recovery from shrapnel wounds appeared good, said the officials, who spoke on condition they not be identified.

One of the latter three underwent exploratory surgery on Friday. All had extremely high fevers and erratic pulses before their conditions improved.

The hurt patient was being kept in an antiseptic environment to stave off infection. A team of seven military physicians, some from the helicopter carrier Guadalcanal and others flown from the United States, were

attending the wounded men.

At least three of them will require post treatment medical care, the officials said.

They said the United States plans to repatriate all of the wounded Iranians who express a desire to return home, but no timetable has been set for that.

The bodies of two Iranians who died after they were pulled from the water by the Americans also will be returned to Iran.

The officials said all four of the men were awake and able to talk. The navy was attempting to find out if the "detainees" are civilians, military or members of the Revolutionary Guards, one official said.

He said there had been no effort made to inquire as to whether they wish to return home or not.

"We have not got to that point. It is still very early in the questioning," said the official.

The officials said that, contrary to earlier reports, three Iranian patrol craft were involved in the Thursday night clash.

There was no Iranian "frigate" or other larger ship involved, as the Pentagon said earlier

Iran says it obtained U.S. Stingers

NICOSIA (R) — Iran says it has obtained U.S. Stinger missiles and is making copies of the portable anti-aircraft weapons which its forces fired at American helicopters in the Gulf last week.

The report by the Iranian News Agency IRNA on Saturday raised speculation about how Tehran acquired the infra-red guided missiles. They have a range of five miles (eight km) and are designed to pack a devastating punch against helicopters and low-flying aircraft.

IRNA quoted the commander of the country's Revolutionary Guards as saying the surface-to-air missiles were obtained a long time ago but he gave no further details.

British newspapers said Tehran was believed to have bought up to 20 Stingers for one million dollars from Afghan guerrillas who received them covertly through the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for use in their fight against the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

In Washington, the Pentagon said it did not know how the missiles fell into Iranian hands and was investigating. U.S. analysts said an Iranian acquisition of Stingers would pose a significant new threat to American aircraft operating in the Gulf.

According to IRNA, Iranian forces in patrol boats fired Stin-

gers at U.S. helicopter, gunships in the Gulf last Thursday and shot one of them down. The Americans have denied this. The agency said Mohsen Rezaei, head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards corps, told a news conference on Saturday that Iran was successfully making copies of the 35 pound (16kg) shoulder-fired weapon.

The Washington Post reported that U.S. government sources said one of the Afghan rebel groups who received hundreds of Stingers from the United States may have sold some to the Iranians.

Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil told the United Nations last month that the United States had stepped up the flow of Stinger missiles to the rebels from 60 last year to 600 this year.

The Kahul government offered on Saturday to buy arms, including Stingers, from Western-backed rebels who stopped fighting. The offer, reported by Kabul Radio, was the latest move in the government's peace drive to end the nine-year-old war with the guerrillas, many of whom are based in neighbouring Iran and Pakistan.

Alarm has been mounting in the U.S. Congress over the possibility of American weapons falling into the wrong hands. Senator Dennis DeConcini of the Senate Intelligence Committee told the

Washington Post: "Now one of our worst enemies may have one of our best weapons in one of the most volatile regions of the world."

The Pentagon said batteries and packing cases usually used with the Stinger were found on one of two Iranian patrol boats captured in Thursday's clash.

The London Sunday Times said in a front-page report that U.S. intelligence believed the equipment found on the patrol boat may be part of a much larger batch of Stingers bought by Iran in the past few weeks.

It said 16 of the missiles originally funnelled to Afghan guerrillas by the CIA had been sold to Iran. The London Sunday Express said the deal involved 20 Stingers.

The Sunday Times quoted an unidentified U.S. intelligence source as saying: "The assumption is that the Iranians have got access to large numbers of Stingers ... and we want to find out where they came from."

The Reagan administration, in a controversial move, began funneling the missiles to Afghan Muslim rebels last year by through the CIA and Pakistani authorities, according to Congressional sources.

The administration, in selling Stingers to such countries as Saudi Arabia, imposed strict conditions on their use, storage and

re-sale. No such safeguards can be applied when dealing with rebels.

Congressmen have long been worried about introducing the portable missiles into the Middle East. Congressional opposition forced the administration last week to drop a tentative plan to sell Stingers worth \$7 million to Bahrain as a defence against possible Iranian attack and as a reward for its cooperation with the U.S. operations in the Gulf.

"I am pleased that the president has agreed not to sell Stinger missiles to Bahrain," Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd of West Virginia said last Thursday after President Reagan bowed to Congressional pressure and eliminated a key portion of a major arms sale to Saudi Arabia.

The Bahrain Stingers, and tentative plans to sell Stingers to two other Gulf states, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, were being considered along with the Saudi package.

"I strongly believe that the practical effect of selling Stingers to anyone in a volatile area such as the Middle East is unwise," Mr. Byrd told the president in a letter.

Pandora's Box should not be opened on this system.

"No threat to Bahrain is so great, nor their cooperation with us so significant, as to justify a sale of Stingers," he said in the letter.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 711119

PROGRAMME ONE
15:55 Cartoons and children programmes

16:20 **Journalist in Art**
17:10 **Jack Halborn**
17:40 **Phonetic Action**
18:00 **Arabic Series**
19:00 **Message from Oman**
19:20 **Local programme**
19:45 **Programme review**
20:00 **News in Arabic**
20:30 **Arabic Series**
21:20 **Tourism in Jordan**
21:40 **Arabic Series**
22:00 **News Summary in Arabic**
22:10 **Close down**

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 **Thomson's Naturelle**
19:00 **News in French**
19:15 **Sport magazine in French**
19:30 **News in French**
19:45 **News in French**
20:00 **News in Arabic**
20:30 **Kate and Alice**
21:00 **Communications**
21:10 **Fulton Crest**
22:00 **News in English**
22:20 **Tunisia (monocast)**

RADIO JORDAN
835 KHz AM & 94.5 MHz FM
A path on 104.0 KHz, SW
Tel. 711119

07:00 **Light Music**
07:30 **Newsdesk**
08:00 **Morning Show**
09:00 **News Summary**
10:00 **Just a Minute**
11:00 **Follow the Wind**
12:00 **News Summary**
12:05 **Pop Session**
13:00 **News Summary**
13:05 **Pop Session Cont.**
14:00 **News Bulletin**
14:30 **Piano Magic**
15:00 **Concert Hour**
16:00 **News Summary**
16:05 **Instrumentals**
17:30 **Old Favourites**
18:00 **Now Music**
18:30 **Pop Session**
19:00 **News Summary**
19:05 **Sports Roundup**
19:30 **Music**
19:40 **Newsdesk**
20:00 **Date with a Star**
20:00 **Evening Show**
21:05 **Evening Show Cont.**

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 120 & SW 701, 965, 1170, 11925 and 15210 Hz

05:00 News 05:10 News 05:20 VOA Morning News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:20 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:20 VOA Morning 08:30 News 08:40 Newsline 08:50 News 09:00 Newsline 09:10 News 09:20 Newsline 09:30 News 09:40 Newsline 09:50 News 10:00 Newsline 10:10 News 10:20 Newsline 10:30 News 10:40 Newsline 10:50 News 11:00 Newsline 11:10 News 11:20 Newsline 11:30 News 11:40 Newsline 11:50 News 12:00 Newsline 12:10 News 12:20 Newsline 12:30 News 12:40 Newsline 12:50 News 13:00 Newsline 13:10 News 13:20 Newsline 13:30 News 13:40 Newsline 13:50 News 14:00 Newsline 14:10 News 14:20 Newsline 14:30 News 14:40 Newsline 14:50 News 15:00 Newsline 15:10 News 15:20 Newsline 15:30 News 15:40 Newsline 15:50 News 16:00 Newsline 16:10 News 16:20 Newsline 16:30 News 16:40 Newsline 16:50 News 17:00 Newsline 17:10 News 17:20 Newsline 17:30 News 17:40 Newsline 17:50 News 18:00 Newsline 18:10 News 18:20 Newsline 18:30 News 18:40 Newsline 18:50 News 19:00 Newsline 19:10 News 19:20 Newsline 19:30 News 19:40 Newsline 19:50 News 20:00 Newsline 20:10 News 20:20 Newsline 20:30 News 20:40 Newsline 20:50 News 21:00 Newsline 21:10 News 21:20 Newsline 21:30 News 21:40 Newsline 21:50 News 22:00 Newsline 22:10 News 22:20 Newsline 22:30 News 22:40 Newsline 22:50 News 23:00 Newsline 23:10 News 23:20 Newsline 23:30 News 23:40 Newsline 23:50 News

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A painting exhibition by Bassam Madafah at the Housing Bank Gallery (until Oct. 17).

* An art exhibition on Jerusalem at the University of Jordan.

* A painting exhibition on the occasion of the "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless" at the Housing Bank Centre (until Oct. 12).

* "Pour la peau d'un Flic" at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CINEMA
"Pour la peau d'un Flic" at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 643777
British Council Tel. 6361478
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637000
Goethe Institute Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 642003
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 634049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 637777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 661519
Hussein Youth City Tel. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793
Y.M.C.A. Tel. 662521
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim coun-

tries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Monarch, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630125.

Marjays' Memorial Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 663430.

SERVICE CLUBS
The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 623541.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Husein, Tel. 661757.
Terra Sancta Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811255.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Sunday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Vard.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) and is subject to change without notice. For the latest information, contact the Royal Jordanian International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS
(Terminal 1)
10:15 Agaba (RJ)
10:15 Cairo (RJ)
10:20 Damascus (RJ)
10:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:15 Doha, Kuwait (RJ)
11:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:40 Athens (RJ)
19:05 Los Angeles, Chicago (RJ)
19:10 Bucharest (RJ)
19:40 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:45 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)
10:20 Sana'a (LH)
12:00 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:20 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
17:25 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
01:40 Beirut (ME)
02:30 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS
(Terminal 1)
08:00 Agaba (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15 Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Paris

Queen Alia Fund shoulders main tasks to serve rural communities

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With a budget larger than that of the Ministry of Social Development, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) works quietly but persistently at accomplishing many projects which aim at providing badly-needed social services in the different regions of Jordan.

During an informal meeting with Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma outlined the aims and achievements of the fund, stressing that QAF was not a charitable society but rather a "pioneer national private voluntary organisation."

According to Princess Basma, "Variety in services is an important element when discussing different projects, we do not only provide services for children," she said, but the fund also provides "rehabilitation centres for women, social service centres, care for the handicapped and services in the different villages of the Kingdom."

Almost all projects undertaken by the fund are carried out mainly in areas of the Kingdom that are not getting the same services provided in the capital, Amman. These projects are only adopted after extensive studies made by Jordanian researchers volunteering their services to the fund.

Princess Basma cited a project

carried out in Karak which was badly needed: "There were no centres especially constructed for the handicapped in Karak, and they (the people) very badly needed specialised training to be able to care for the handicapped." The fund has opened handicapped centres in Karak, Irbid, Amman and Zarqa.

Funding for QAF comes from four main sources. In 1986 the fund's income included: Investment earnings JD 578,424, contributions JD 238,460, project-specific contributions JD 52,209 and from other sources JD 403.

The fund offers assistance to social projects, support for private voluntary organisations, and studies and scholarships. It also pays for its own administrative expenses and general obligations. In addition the fund contributes to private voluntary organisations and allocates money for the QAF endowment fund.

According to Princess Basma, the fund "allocates the different service centres to relevant charitable societies to administer, but the fund continues to supervise the progress of the centres." This policy allows the fund to study the success or failure of the different centres, to evaluate such centres as well as to make studies for reforms.

Although QAF works as a private organisation with no official ties with the Ministry of Social Development it still holds annual

meetings with officials of the ministry to avoid duplication of work.

The aims of the QAF fall into six main areas which generally describe those aims and projections:

— Working towards gathering public work force for the project in order to support existing government social development programmes to protect the Jordanian citizen and Jordanian family and provide them with better life conditions.

— Organising and developing skills of the Jordanians in the field of voluntary work towards a better contribution in the country's social development and to make better use of already existing resources whether human or material.

— Adopting scientific methods to determine project priorities and for the implementation of the different projects.

— Working towards a better geographically distributed services.

— Supporting and helping charitable societies, both economically and technically, to develop their work and to upgrade the level of their services.



ARMY EXERCISES: A number of units from the 12th Royal Mechanised Division took part in military exercises held overnight in the country and watched by the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and senior army officers. The troops, supported by Royal Jordanian Air Force planes and helicopters, carried out the exercises in accordance with set plans and with live ammunition. Field Marshal Sharif Zaid, accompanied by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and the inspector general of the Armed Forces, were briefed on the course of the exercises by troop commanders. Different types of weapons and support armament were used in the exercises which ended Sunday (Petra photo)

Jordan remembers liberation of Jerusalem

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday patronised a symposium held at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Arts to mark the eighth centenary of the liberation of Jerusalem from the Crusaders by the Islamic leader Saladdin Al Ayyubi.

Addressing the meeting was Mr. Akram Zu'aiter who stood in for Prince Hassan. Mr. Zu'aiter related the story of the liberation and said that the Jerusalem issue is an Islamic one, closely connected with the Islamic faith.

Mr. Zu'aiter who is also chairman of the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs said that holy war is the only way for liberating Jerusalem and this liberation should remain the main duty of Islamic nations.

In his speech, Mr. Zu'aiter

noted that at the time of Saladdin's liberation of the holy city all Muslim and Christian Arabs joined hands for the sake of the common cause. This anniversary, he added, should remind us of unity which serves as an essential element for victory, exactly as Saladdin did in joining all Arab states before embarking on his sacred task. Mr. Zu'aiter noted.

Another speaker was Dr. Mustafa Al Hiyari from the University of Jordan who spoke in detail on the liberation of Jerusalem in 1187 and the lessons that should be learnt from that victory.

Among those attending the symposium were Acting President of the University of Jordan Mahmoud Al Samra and members of the Royal Commission for the Jerusalem Affairs.

Jordan, Syria end talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to buy apples, garlic and onions from Syria in exchange for lemon exports to that country. The agreement to this effect was reached between the two sides in the past few days.

The agreement concluded talks between Mr. Ghazi Abu Hassan, director general of the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) and Syrian officials from the Syrian Vegetable and Fruit Estab-

lishment led by Mr. Samir Abdul Dayem.

During the three-day meetings held in Damascus, the two sides agreed that Jordan will import 6,500 tonnes of onions, 5,000 tonnes of apples and 400 tonnes of garlic from Syria and will export to that country a total of 5,000 tonnes of lemons.

Paper on handicapped women stresses importance of rehabilitation programmes

By Rania Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A regional symposium on vocational rehabilitation programmes and policies for handicapped women in the Middle East Sunday resumed discussions on problems facing the handicapped and reviewed study papers presented by delegates of other Arab countries.

The symposium, organised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, started on Saturday and runs until Oct. 22.

During Sunday's morning session, Mr. Munira Al Gatami, who works for the Kuwaiti Ministry of Health and is the Arab region's vice president for the New York-based Rehabilitation International, presented a paper on "the nature and extent of problems faced by handicapped women," concentrating on the problems of vocational rehabilitation in particular.

In her presentation, Dr. Al Gatami described the word "rehabilitation," as defined by the World Health Organisation, as meaning "the joint and coordinated use of medical, social, educational and professional means to retrain handicapped people and enable them to attain their highest level of performance possible."

Dr. Al Gatami made a specific reference to the lack of adequate research and statistics on handicapped women in the Arab World, especially with regards to their employment rates.

Society's attitude towards the issue of disability is one of the problems faced by handicapped people, said Dr. Al Gatami. She explained that in the recent past, society regarded the issue of disability as a problem of individuals rather than a social one. For various reasons, such as the feeling of guilt and shame among families with handicapped members, the issue of disability was kept as a secret.

It is common for parents to leave their handicapped daughters at home because of the negative attitude of the family or

because they cannot find alternatives for rehabilitation," Dr. Al Gatami stated. She added that "though the authorities in our countries do not take direct responsibility to establish rehabilitation centres, we cannot forget some of the efforts which the governments and benevolent societies have done in the past to help handicapped women in the rehabilitation process."

She added that "in order to get better results, we should be more concerned with the rehabilitation of society itself to accept handicapped people, especially women, and to minimise their suffering."

Another point which Dr. Al Gatami mentioned was that preventive measures are an essential and complementary element of the rehabilitation process. According to United Nations statistics cited by Dr. Al Gatami, handicapped people form 10 per cent of the world's population. This figure may be even higher in developing countries because of ignorance, diseases, poverty and war, she warned.

Preventive measures, according to Dr. Al Gatami, include vaccinations against diseases, the reduction in the number of intermarriage among relatives as well as a reduction in the number of accidents in homes and on the road. Consultation centres can also be of great use in the early diagnosis of cases of disability, according to Dr. Al Gatami.

To overcome problems faced by the handicapped we have to focus on building societal awareness and to draw up proper legislation that deals with the issue of disability, Dr. Al Gatami said. A third point tackled by Dr. Al Gatami dealt with the environmental problems and obstacles

facing handicapped women. Her reference was to obstacles that impede the freedom of movement of handicapped people, thereby affecting their daily activities.

"The idea of an environment free of obstacles (for the handicapped) stems from the fact that many of these obstacles are created by man" such as those in housing and transportation facilities, she said. Such facilities, she added, should be constructed with an aim of facilitating the movement of handicapped people in a way that would integrate them into society by allowing them "easy access to their places of residence, work, education and worship."

Dr. Al Gatami also stressed the importance of vocational training and said that "rehabilitation services should be developed so that they would be available for all those who need them. Such services should be comprehensive (to include rural and urban areas), flexible, and constantly available." As examples, she cited centres for guidance and vocational training and added that these centres would provide care for the physically handicapped if no clinics were available to do so.

One of the most important problems of rehabilitation, according to Dr. Al Gatami, is the lack of qualified personnel to work in the rehabilitation field. "Therefore, our policies in the future should be based on plans to support comprehensive programmes to train such personnel."

Additional presentations in the symposium included papers on the problems of handicapped women in specific countries as well as the presentation of 2 films prepared by the ILO. The first film, entitled "In Place of Charity," was about activities and projects of the ILO, and the second, "A Worker's World," was about the organisation itself.

Monday's session includes a lecture on "vocational training and employment" as well as presentations on the problems of handicapped women in Syria, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma inspects a centre for child care run by the Queen Alia Fund (Petra photo)

King and Mubarak review Gulf and Mideast events

(Continued from page 1)

for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. The King will meet Mr. Shultz in London. Mr. Mubarak will meet the U.S. secretary when he visits the Middle East after the London meeting.

Answering reporters' questions, King Hussein said Sunday that the recent escalation in the Gulf war had taken the region on "a dangerous path causing concern and anxiety to a number of Gulf Arab states."

"If Arab countries do not reorganise their ranks, anxiety will continue to affect all of us in the area," he said.

The King also said he also visited Cairo to congratulate President Mubarak on his reelection last week for a second six-

year term and to convey to the Egyptian leader "the love, appreciation and admiration of Jordan's people."

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King and President Mubarak exchanged views on the recent developments in the Palestinian problem and efforts towards convening an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict. The agency said the two leaders shared identical views and emphasised that the called for international conference was the only means to secure a just and durable settlement to the Palestinian problem.

In his remarks to reporters, Mr. Mubarak said he was awaiting Mr. Shultz' visit to the region for talks on "new prospects for the peace conference."

As the King and Mr. Mubarak held a closed meeting, Prime Minister Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Atef Sedki held talks. The meeting was attended by senior officials from both sides.

Jordanian envoys on Sunday began a tour of various Arab states to deliver His Majesty's formal invitations to Arab leaders to attend the Nov. 8 summit in Amman.

In Tunis, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali delivered the invitation to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. Mr. Majali will also deliver a similar invitation to Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, before proceeding to Mauritania on a similar mission.

Protests rock occupied lands

(Continued from page 1)

Reports said Palestinians formed a half circle to close off the main Al Moghrabi gate entrance to the complex barring entry to a group of Jews. Muslim security men were unable to disperse the crowd, and the protesters threw rocks and bottles.

A pall of tear gas descended, scattering protesters and thousands of visitors. Police eventually allowed five Jews to tour the complex briefly.

A Muslim worshipper told reporters: "Jews wanted to pray, but this place is not for them. It's forbidden. This is the Muslim place. They can come but not to pray."

In Amman, Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs, Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat condemned Israeli encroachment on the Haram Al Sharif.

"We condemn these Israeli attempts to take over the (Al Aqsa) Mosque," he told Reuters. "Their claim that they had found Jewish ruins beneath it is merely to justify resuming archaeological digging in the mosque compound, where only Islamic Omayyad relics have been found."

Meanwhile, Egypt protested to Israel on Sunday over violence in the occupied Gaza Strip, saying that shooting unarmed Palestinian students would not help peace in the region.

"Firing at unarmed students... does not help the cause of peace and is not conducive to the political atmosphere needed to establish peace and stability," an authoritative Foreign Ministry source said in Cairo.

"Further, it increases tension at a time when international and regional efforts are being made to hasten peace prospects."

Reports said Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 25 people in Gaza on Saturday after they were stoned by rioting students at Al Azhar University.

The protests continued Sunday and hundreds of Arabs chanting "God is great" set fire to tyres and pummeled Israeli cars with stones Sunday in the fifth day of violence following a bloody shoot-out that left five people dead.

At least 10 Palestinians were arrested, Israeli sources said.

Gaza City appeared to be under siege, with streets deserted at midday except for knots of chanting protesters.

Most shops were shuttered and locked in a commercial strike and many Palestinian women and children stayed inside.

Iraqis wreak havoc on oil flow

(Continued from page 1)

Baghdad late on Saturday killed or wounded a number of civilians, including women and children, an Iraqi military spokesman said.

Iran said the missile hit the important Al Rashid military garrison but the Iraqi spokesman said it slammed home in a residential area.

Baghdad residents said the blast was heard across the city of four million population.

Two Iranian ground-to-ground missiles hit the city last Monday after heavy air raids by Iraq on Iranian ships and oil sites.

Iran said the latest attack was in retaliation for Iraq's alleged use of chemical weapons on military and civilian targets in Iran.

Baghdad has consistently denied using chemical weapons.

The Iranian missile that struck

New U.S. convoy in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

fire on one of their observation helicopters (Wounded Iraqis recovering, page 2).

Iran said their gunboat crews used portable Stinger missiles in that clash.

Iran also is under pressure again from Iraqi air raids on its tankers and oil sites.

Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi accused the United States on Sunday of laying siege to his country and warned that Iraqis will fight "to the last house, the last person, the last drop of blood."

He also renewed threats to block the flow of oil through the Gulf if the United States continued to confront Iran in the strategic waterway.

Intercontinental Hotels appoint new chief

AMMAN — Mr. Patrick Copeland has been named president and chief operating officer of New York-based Intercontinental Hotels Corporation. The announcement was made recently by Intercontinental's chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Ian Martin.

Mr. Copeland was until recently the chief executive officer of Cinzano International Geneva. He will be responsible for Intercontinental's 100 hotels around the world.

A graduate of the University of Ottawa, Canada, Mr. Copeland is 43 years old and will be based at Intercontinental's corporate headquarters in New York as of December 1987.

Intercontinental operates hotels in North America, Latin



Patrick Copeland
America, Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, Africa and Australia.

Seminar debates slow legal process

By Margarette Hall
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Business and Professional Women's Club here held a seminar this weekend during which prominent Jordanian lawyers discussed the problem of what was described as slow legal procedures in Jordanian courts.

The seminar held at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation was aimed at reviewing problems facing people in pursuing legal action in the Kingdom in addition to raising public awareness of individual legal rights.

Lawyers Mahmoud Rafik Salah, Hani Al Dabbeh and judge Mufleb Al Qudah, participating in the seminar, agreed that there was a need for some reviews in the legal system in Jordan to facilitate and expedite legal procedures in Jordan.

Mr. Salah explained that in the United States, a similar campaign to inform the public had been established a long time ago, spreading awareness of the law through publications and books such as "Law of the Layman," which is of great help to ordinary people. He said that such a debate was necessary because there were too many legal problems facing lawyers as well as their clients in courts. He said that debate was necessary to discuss such problems including pro-

longed procedures and legal action.

Citing an example, he said that if a court issued a ruling to auction a certain individual's property and the defendant appealed the ruling a year later, the appeal may be considered by the court which would involve many complications. He added that expediting legal action would help avoid such complications and extra expenses that may arise from changes that occur in the period before a final decision is taken by the court.

Mr. Al Qudah commented on various aspects of legal judgments. He told the seminar held Wednesday and Thursday that court cases sometimes took several years to settle and that when one thought that he was nearing the end of the case, he was often surprised to find out that the case was only beginning.

He added that another problem facing the legal system in Jordan was that of the time consuming process of summoning somebody to court. He explained that due to the lack of a proper planning and numbering of streets in the country, the authorities entrusted with handing the summons take a long-time to locate the summoned party and thus the whole legal procedure is delayed.

Mr. Qudah raised the question of the validity of imprisonment as a means to pressure an indebted person to pay his debt. He said he believed that such an action should only be applied on "international debtors." He added that in many cases when the debtor is under age, pregnant or sick, the prison sentence is not applied. He explained that this practice enabled some to forge sick reports to ensure a pardon from a prison sentence.

Members of the audience attending the debate included judge Ahmad Al Momani, head of the Court of First Instance in Zarqa and judge Subhi Al Kadoumi.

A discussion between the panelists and members of the audience followed. The Business and Professional Women's Club President Hind Abdul Jabbar told the Jordan Times that the club has been holding legal debates in order to spread legal knowledge among women in general and professional women in particular. Consequently, Mrs. Abdul Jabbar said, women would become better informed about their rights which are guaranteed in existing laws.

MABARRAT UMM AL HUSSEIN			
On Oct. 10, 1987 the results of the charity lottery for the Mabarrat Umm Al Hussein were announced and the winners were the tickets with the following numbers:			
7857	1st prize	814	2nd prize
9264	3rd prize	9267	4th prize
6142	5th prize	10888	6th prize
7563	7th prize	5699	8th prize
5000	9th prize	12988	10th prize
3509	11th prize	8252	12th prize
13590	13th prize	13569	14th prize
4996	15th prize	3368	16th prize
9280	17th prize	4054	18th prize
9329	19th prize	8371	20th prize
1828	21st prize	5162	22nd prize
5163	23rd prize	7722	24th prize
		8832 25th prize	

The winners are requested to call at the Mabarrat Umm Al Hussein during office hours for receiving their prizes. The Mabarrat Umm Al Hussein is located at Marka Al Shamalleh — near the Public Transport Corporation, Tel: 892680 Amman.

Jordan Times

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Arms embargo not on its own

AS THE U.N. Security Council contemplates the possibility of imposing an arms embargo on Iran for its refusal of Resolution 598. Some experts are questioning the efficacy and potency of an arms embargo should the day arrive when the Security Council will finally resort to such an enforcement measure. To begin with, the council must reckon in this context with the fact that the Iranian armament industry is quite developed already and in many ways the Iranian armed forces are dependent on local industry for its needs to a substantial degree. Secondly the "merchants of death" are rampant all over the world and their agents often succeed in circumventing laws, whether domestic or international, when embarking on their relentless sales campaigns to arms hungry states. Also, the record of the U.N. in policing arms embargoes are anything but satisfactory. Countries determined to acquire weapons of any kind usually succeed in getting them at the "right price." Given these harsh facts and circumstances, it would seem in order for the Security Council to seek other ways than an arms embargo to enforce Resolution 598. It seems, barring economic strangulation, Iran will continue to be able to pursue its war efforts against Iraq and to defy the will of the international community. It is encouraging to note in this context that the U.S. Congress has voted overwhelmingly in favour of an embargo on all purchases from Iran and now it is up to President Ronald Reagan to act on that decision. If all the countries which trade with Iran can follow suit, the cause of Resolution 598 would be that much more enhanced and promoted. It is incumbent therefore on all those countries which profess pious support to the resolution to begin translating their words into deeds. Unlike sending armadas to the Arab Gulf which is charged with high risks, the application of economic sanctions are practically risk-free and potent enough to affect the country in question in the most decisive way. This is not to suggest that international actions should be confined to economic sanctions. Rather, it is a proposal for the application of multi-dimensional sanctions encompassing an arms embargo, economic sanctions, and political pressures in the form of severance of all political contacts and relationships. Simply put, only by "quarantining" Iran on all fronts will the international community be able to bring pressure to bear on the Iranian regime. And since the Security Council is taking its time to articulate its future course of action, it will be in order to suggest to it that it should start to contemplate not only temporary measures but also iron-clad actions which have the potential of bending the obstinate will of the Khomeini regime to pursue its war of aggression against Iraq to the bitter end.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Comprehensive speech

IN HIS speech from the throne, King Hussein on Saturday emphasised the continued cooperation between the legislative and executive branches of the government, and said that in the coming two years both sides will cooperate for the sake of preparing for a new Parliamentary election. In another point in his speech the King made it clear that the government was giving utmost care for security in the country so that prosperity and development could be achieved. Security, he said, should be maintained on the domestic front through public security services, and on the external front, through the armed forces who serve as a shield for the Arab Nation. Security and stability, the monarch noted, are essential elements for achieving economic and social development in the Kingdom. We take pride in the King's emphasis on the need to maintain all forms of contacts with the Arab population under Israeli rule and his determination to consider the Palestine question as the axis of Jordan's policies. For this sake, the King noted that all efforts have been made for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 through an international conference to be held under the auspices of the United Nations. In his speech to Parliament, the King stressed Jordan's endeavours to protect the Arab world in the face of common dangers, and said that the Arab summit meeting is a necessary to pool Arab efforts and resources and to pave the way for a new era in inter-Arab relations.

Al Dstour: King presents government policy

KING HUSSEIN opened Parliament's new ordinary session with a speech from the throne, outlining the government's achievements and future programmes on the domestic and external fronts. In his speech, the King also announced the extension of Parliament's present mandate for another two years to prepare the ground for a new general election. He also stressed the importance of security and stability in the Kingdom as basic elements for development and prosperity. Security, he said, should also be maintained through the armed forces who continue to serve as a shield, providing protection to the Arab countries. The King devoted a large part of his speech to the efforts being made to establish peace in the Middle East. He said that Israel's rejection of U.N. Security Council resolutions which call for withdrawal from Arab territory in exchange for peace continues to impede a just solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict. This attitude, the monarch added, has prompted Jordan to maintain its efforts worldwide in order to ensure the implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 and bring a lasting peace to the region. Despite Israel's intransigence, Jordan has been pursuing efforts because, for the Kingdom, the Palestinian question is the axis of all policies on the internal and external fronts.

Sawt Al Shaab: King stresses on security

IN HIS speech from the throne delivered to Parliament on Saturday, King Hussein focused light on a number of aspects of Jordanian domestic issues, pointing clearly to the different development projects which he said are being implemented to achieve prosperity. In his speech the King said that no development can be achieved unless the country is enjoying stability and security from internal and external dangers. In that he meant that the armed forces should be strengthened and the public security should be made to protect citizens and rights. The speech covered Jordan's aspirations and also its achievements over the past years and stressed that the Palestine question remains at the very foundation of the Kingdom's strategy. This policy means that Jordan will maintain its support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights in their homeland.

Equality between sexes needed

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

THE other day I was made to listen attentively to a discourse on labour rights by an Egyptian accountant working presently in Jordan. I tried to pretend that I was listening when in fact I was not paying much attention to his grievances as I estimated it must be simply the good old story that I have heard over and over again about the need to be a bit more compassionate towards the "rights" of foreign labourers especially Arab nationals and accord them the privilege of residing and working in Jordan on more liberal terms.

But his story, unfolded slowly yet painstakingly in front of me, I came to realise that in his case and in the case of scores of others who happen to be sharing the same predicament and ordeal, the situation presented requires a thorough examination and treatment in order to satisfy not only our obligations to our fellow Arabs in general but also the provisions of our laws as they appear in our Constitution and treaty obligations.

In the case of the Egyptian at bar, he simply asked whether his peculiar situation requires a different treatment from the one accorded to him annually when it becomes incumbent on him to beg right and left for the renewal of his permit to reside and work in the Kingdom. He explained to me that he is married to a Jordanian and has already several children from her and that for the last five years he has been maintaining a permanent residence in this country. He thought that perhaps on humanitarian grounds he should be accorded a different treatment from the one given to fellow Arab workers who are not married to Jordanian women. Of course he never entertained the probability that while invoking passionate and humanitarian grounds in defence of his case, he was also raising substantive legal issue that touch even the heart of our Constitution. His case could very well develop into the kind of "case celebre" that shook the jurisprudences of many advanced legal systems the world over. In fact his kind of case has already made history in the United States and Canada and several jurisdictions in the Western world where the rights of individuals, citizens and non-citizens alike, are scrupulously observed and defended.

The issue at bar as presented in the case of the Egyptian worker

can be summarised as follows: Since the Constitution of Jordan outlaws discrimination on the basis of sex as indeed its treaty obligations also requires as per the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which Jordan not only signed but ratified as well back in the mid-seventies, then it follows that by according citizenship rights to foreign women married to Jordanian men while denying same treatment to foreign men married to Jordanian women, there is a clear violation of the provisions of our Constitution and the relevant treaties that we became a party thereof. If our women are equal to our men, why then we bestow citizenship on foreign women married to Jordanians and deny foreign men the same rights when they marry our women? Liberal and even reasonable construction of our laws and international commitments would necessitate that we remove forthwith this discriminatory practice from our law books either by a court order or by amending our existing laws to become more in conformity with the dictates of our Constitution and the various international treaties on the subject of the need to eliminate discrimination on the bases of sex.

All over the world, foreign nationals married to citizens are accorded preferential treatment over un-married foreign workers when it comes to residency and work permits. After all the Jordanian men married to foreign workers have rights including the right to continue to live in their own country and rear their children in it as well. We will have a grave social and economic problem on our hands if we leave our women stranded and beleaguered by the legal constraints that they would "inherit" by marrying a non-Jordanian man. They and their children need our attention and protection and not our discriminatory practices and unfair treatment.

In view of the foregoing observation it would be in order, legally, socially and economically, not to mention compassionate and family considerations, to grant foreign workers married to Jordanian women at least permanent working and residency permits. The day will surely come when we will do just that and it appears to me

that it is just a matter of time before this becomes the norm and practise. The sooner we act the better it is for us, our women and our children.

I have already advised the Egyptian worker to take his case and complaint to the highest court in the country, the Supreme Court of Justice and to ask his attorney to plead the discrimination point on the basis of sex. I am sure that our supreme justices will not shun this case and will pronounce themselves fairly and squarely and thereby create a precedent which will become a legal landmark in the progressive development of Jordanian jurisprudence. Through such cases, jurisprudences all over the world develop and realise the kind of progressive development that we in Jordan urgently need and await. This is the very process to "make" laws through the court rooms especially when existing laws are repugnant to our Constitution and treaty obligations.

This is not to deny that we have a grave unemployment problem in our midst and that whatever actions we take to alleviate the plight of those foreign workers married to Jordanian women or, vice versa, those Jordanian women married to foreign workers, they need to be in harmony with the overall and balanced policies of the country. We may even require reciprocity treatment from the countries of the foreign nationals residing in Jordan and demanding a preferential treatment on grounds that they are married to Jordanian women. But even such a fair approach would not address the problems posed by the Jordanian women married to foreign nationals. Our Jordanian women expect and are entitled to expect that their natural and general citizenship rights are not denied them because they are married to Arab citizens of other Arab countries. There are always a set of citizenship rights which cannot be forfeited and they include in my humble estimation the right to reside in one's country with one's spouse and children. Accordingly, it is only fair and natural that our concerned authorities should address this problem and offer reasonable and equitable solution to it as soon as possible.

Critics say latest clash shows U.S., Iran at war or on brink

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — America's sinking of three Iranian gunboats in the Gulf has prompted some congressmen and arms experts to conclude the United States is on the brink of war with Iran.

After the second major incident involving U.S. and Iranian forces in the Gulf in less than a month, some Reagan administration critics contended war has already begun.

But that view is not unanimous. The administration argues that hostilities are not imminent, and some private analysts say they doubt Iran, already embroiled in a seven-year-old war with Iraq, will take on a mighty U.S. armada mustered in the region.

Most political analysts agree that on the home front, the sinking of the gunboats on Thursday is likely to stoke tensions between President Reagan and Congress, which has a constitutional role in war-making.

The Pentagon said the gunboats fired first. "The attack was clear evidence the U.S. and Iran are engaged in a war," retired Admiral Gene Larocque, director of the Liberal Centre for Defence Information think tank, said in an interview. Larocque, long an administration critic on military and strategic affairs, predicted Iran eventually would hit a U.S. warship or shoot down a helicopter, prompting massive retaliation.

Senator James Exon, a Democrat who serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee, in a comment echoed by several senators, told Reuters: "There's going to be more (fighting)." Congressman Les Aspin, chair-

man of the powerful House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, said in a television interview: "I don't think we're going to be able to continue to have these nitpicky kind of attacks happen and not have some kind of reaction."

But Middle East expert Robert Neuman, who served as Reagan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, told Reuters: "This incident is not very serious."

He said he doubted Iran, with its small navy, would directly confront the American fleet. "The Iranians might be crazy but they are not stupid," he said.

Administration officials reflected that opinion. Some said

the destruction of the Iranian patrol boats, with the loss of at least two Iranian sailors, ended the affair.

But independent analysts said that appeared not to take account of the Iranian view. Tehran, which calls the United States the "Great Satan" and sees Washington as an ally of its Gulf war enemy Iraq, already has threatened worldwide revenge for a U.S. attack on an Iranian vessel on September 21.

Iran's top war spokesman, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said last week that conflict with America in the Gulf was extremely likely soon and suggested it would last several years.

Tensions between the two countries have risen since U.S. forces began escorting Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf war zone last summer. Kuwait is a key backer of Iraq in the Gulf war.

On September 21 U.S. helicopters attacked an Iranian navy ship with rockets and machine guns after the Pentagon said the vessel had been caught laying mines in the central Gulf.

Iran said it would wreak vengeance for the attack and that its actions would not necessarily be confined to the Gulf region. America accuses Iran of operating a worldwide terrorism network.

In previous, lower-scale, U.S.-

Iranian incidents in the region, on August 10 a U.S. warplane fired two missiles at an Iranian F-14 fighter that Washington said was threatening another plane. The rockets missed.

On July 24 the Kuwaiti super-tanker Bridgeton hit a mine while under U.S. escort. America blamed Iran for the mine.

Exon and other senators said they expected the Thursday clash to spark more demands for congressional imposition of the War Powers Act, which would give Congress a role in determining whether U.S. forces remain in the Gulf.

The law comes into play once the president determines that

hostilities are imminent.

"Imminent hostilities are obvious in the Gulf. The War Powers Act in my mind has been triggered and the administration should consult with Congress on the policy of the Gulf," senator Brock Adams, a Democrat, told reporters.

But the Defence Department disputed that.

A move by senators to pass a law scrapping U.S. Gulf tanker escort operations was dropped recently for lack of support, but senators said the subject might be raised again.

Many appeared reluctant to do anything to undermine the U.S. Gulf operation for fear of the political consequences, even if they had misgivings about it. American voters tend to rally round the flag in times of crisis.

Congress meanwhile has called for a complete U.S. trade embargo against Iran.

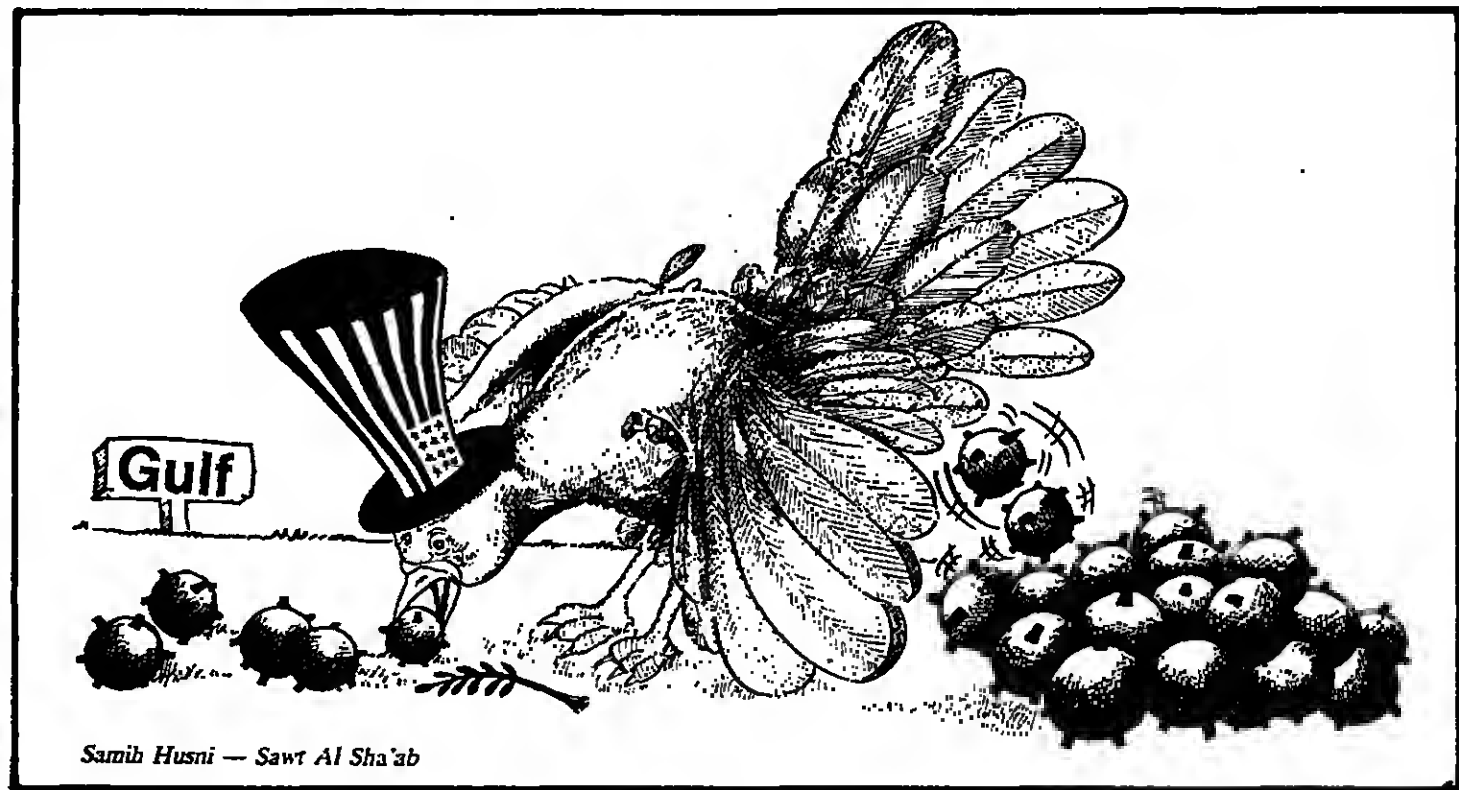
Over the last three years U.S. imports of Iranian crude oil and other goods, including textiles and pistachio nuts, have averaged \$700 million a year.

Congressmen have charged the money fuels Iran's war machine.

The United States severed diplomatic relations with Iran and imposed an arms embargo as a result of the 1979-81 hostage crisis in which 52 Americans were held prisoner in Tehran.

The Reagan administration plunged into its deepest crisis late last year when it was disclosed it had violated that embargo and secretly sold anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles to Iran in hopes of freeing American hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

There has been no public evidence so far of any of these weapons being used by Iran against American forces.



Why should developing countries pay for their suffering?

By Stephany Griffith-Jones

IN 1986, credit arrangements made through the International Monetary Fund (IMF), resulted in developing countries paying back \$2.1 billion more than they borrowed. This year, several nations in Latin America and at least 25 African countries, many of them low-income sub-Saharan states, are making net repayments to the IMF.

The net contribution of the IMF toward the economies of developing countries peaked at 10.7 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDR) in 1983, which represented a very substantial and positive contribution to the funding of the balance of payments of the participating countries.

By 1984, the contribution had halved to 4.8 billion SDRs, which was still a significant amount. In 1985 it had fallen to around zero (at 0.1 billion SDRs) and, by 1986, it was negative, at -2.3 billion SDRs.

Two problems are generally associated with credit arranged via the IMF.

Firstly, much of the Fund's lending is accompanied by very rigorous conditions which affect economic policy decisions made by developing countries' governments, conditions which often do not coincide with the preferred policy options the governments would have pursued. Secondly, and even more relevant, IMF lending is very short-term.

Thus, unless governments and countries continue to renew IMF credits, and accept more or less continuous IMF monitoring of their economies, the net contribution of the Fund toward assisting the balance of payments

of those countries will very quickly decline, and even rapidly become negative, as new disbursements become lower than repayments.

Indeed, this has already occurred, as the IMF's own figures (published in the June 15 IMF Survey) clearly show (see table).

During 1986, Brazil became a major net repayer to the IMF, repaying \$25.5 million SDRs during the year.

Brazil is an interesting case, as between 1982 and 1985 it had seven agreements with the IMF (agreements which are supposed to last at least for one year). These agreements were being continuously suspended, as the Brazilian government could not

meet the strict and often unrealistic economic policy targets being set by the IMF.

Exasperated with the complexity and excessive constraint posed by the IMF conditions, the new democratic government in Brazil decided in 1985 not to go to the

IMF for any more loans. As a result, Brazil became a major repayer.

The governments of other developing countries have taken a more radical line in their relationship with the IMF. Not only have they refused all new credit

arrangements with the IMF, they have also refused to repay the credit arrangements previously incurred. This is the position taken by the Peruvian government, as well as by a number of low-income African states.

During the 1970s, the IMF had a number of credit facilities (such as the Oil Facility) which could be drawn on with very little conditionality attached to them.

Similar specially advantageous facilities (to compensate for high interest rates, for example) have not been created in the 1980s, and existing ones (such as the Compensatory Financing Facility, which compensates countries for reductions in export earnings due to factors outside their con-

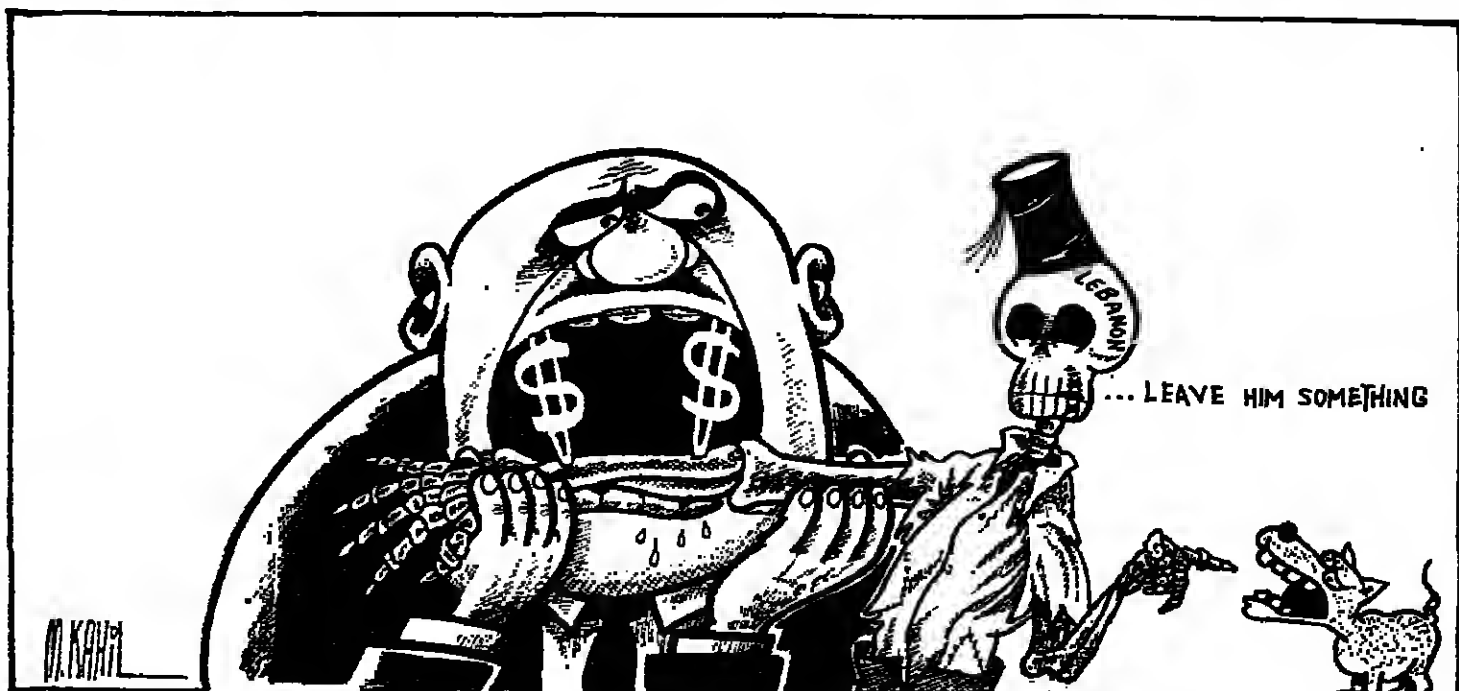
trol, such as falling export prices) have been restricted quantitatively, and had their conditionality increased.

Because the IMF has fairly limited financial resources (and a very, some say excessively, prudent criteria for disbursement), the fact that some developing countries are in arrears to it has become a constraint on the granting of new credit.

A positive step forward was made last year with the creation of the Structural Adjustment Facility, which is specifically tailored for low-income countries, having relatively favourable terms and, in particular, low interest rates. Unfortunately, the facility is fairly small, which makes its impact rather marginal, and it is accompanied by high conditionality.

If the International Monetary Fund were to contribute meaningfully to one of the key objectives for which it was created — "to contribute to high international levels of employment and production" — it would need far larger resources than it enjoys at present. Its lending would need to become far more long-term, and the conditions it requires from governments to which it lends should be less deflationary, less orthodox, and imply more equitable adjustment.

Dr. Stephany Griffith-Jones is a Chilean economist currently heading a programme on Third World debt at the Institute of Development Studies of the University of Sussex, U.K. His article is reprinted from the Jeddah-based Arab News.



Need for AIDS testing of foreign visitors disputed

By Jennifer Parmelee
The Associated Press

NAPLES, Italy — African and Western health experts on Friday urged against testing foreigners for AIDS, saying the screening would be unreliable, encourage discrimination and use resources that could be better spent in other ways.

"From the evidence we have, there's no justification for such testing," said Dr. Samuel Okware, director of the AIDS programme for Uganda's Ministry of Health. "You're saying you don't want snakes to come in when the snake is already in the house."

Okware, addressing a two-day conference that ended Friday on the AIDS epidemic in Africa, echoed the sentiments of delegates from other African countries where the disease has spread swiftly.

Some believe that fear of AIDS has caused discrimination against their compatriots. They point to how African students and tourists have been singled out for AIDS testing by some countries, including Belgium and India.

Many nations, including United States, are contemplating mandatory blood tests for exposure to the AIDS virus in certain cases.

It has become a political issue — and a sensitive one. U.S. Vice President George Bush was booed at an international AIDS conference in Washington in June when he outlined plans to require AIDS tests for immigrants and federal prisoners.

"Politically, it's (testing) a very attractive thing to say because it sounds like you're building a wall around your people to keep AIDS out," says Dr. Jonathan Mann, director of the World Health Organisation task force on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

"The problem is that the infection is already inside the walls and ... you can't build a good wall unless you're willing to sacrifice completely your connections with the outside world," he said.

WHO, based in Switzerland, has opposed compulsory AIDS tests for foreigners.

"The screening of international travellers won't meaningfully stem the flow of AIDS from country to country," said Mann, adding that his agency believes the virus has reached "virtually" every country in the world.

Among the flaws of such testing programmes cited by Mann and others is that doctors' certifi-

cates given as proof of negative AIDS tests could be easily forged.

Another complication is the time it takes for AIDS or the disease's antibodies to show up in the blood after infection has taken place.

"The tests could be negative even if the patient has been infected," said Okware. "You would get a false sense of confidence."

The cost in time and money for the testing is cited as another negative factor, especially for Third World countries where health budgets are already strained.

"It uses too much money that could be better used in other areas," Mann said.

The real solution, most delegates agreed, is education and prevention at home.

"The only answer is to sensitise every person to the bone about AIDS," said Okware.

Added Mann: "(Testing) sends the wrong message about the disease, namely that it is an outside threat and not one within."

Africa itself is not immune from the tendency to blame outsiders for the spread of AIDS, however.

Health officials from Nigeria, Tunisia and Ghana were among those insisting that the killer disease was an import to their countries.

Such assertions, even if true, are regarded by many AIDS specialists as beside the point, much as they slur the debate surrounding the origins of AIDS — at first believed to be African, but now widely in doubt.

"What we are really saying is that it doesn't matter where AIDS came from," said Gottlieb L. Monkosso, WHO's regional director for Africa. "Now, it's everybody's problem."

The AIDS virus attacks a person's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to a wide variety of infections and cancers.

AIDS most often is transmitted through sexual contact. Other means of transmission include transfusions of tainted blood or blood products, and the sharing of contaminated hypodermic needles or syringes by drug abusers.

AIDS also can be passed from mother to child at or before birth.

In the United States and Europe, AIDS so far has been largely confined to male homosexuals, hemophiliacs and intravenous drug abusers. In Africa, it is believed to be transmitted primarily through heterosexual contact.

One-man AIDS epidemic

By Paul Ben-Itzak
Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO — A new book claims that a sexually-promiscuous Canadian infected at least 40 of the first 250 men diagnosed with AIDS in the United States, telling his homosexual lovers after sex they could now get the disease.

The tale of Gaetan Dugas, an airline steward called "patient zero" by AIDS investigators, is detailed in a book by San Francisco Chronicle reporter Randy Shilts entitled: "And the Band Played On — Politics, People and the AIDS Epidemic."

According to studies by the Federal Centres for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta cited by Shilts, at least 40 of the first 250 men diagnosed with acquired immune deficiency syndrome as of April 1982 had sex with either Dugas or someone else who had.

Even as CDC scientists were drawing a map of Dugas' liaisons that spread across the United States and Canada, Dugas continued picking up men in gay bathhouses in San Francisco.

Shilts said Dugas died in 1984 after contracting the disease in 1981 in Europe through sexual contact with Africans. He was estimated to have had sex with 250 men a year.

"Somebody gave this thing to me. I'm not going to give up sex," Shilts quotes Dugas as telling a University of California doctor who treated him in 1982.

"Lovers were like sustains to him. They would be so wonderful, so sexy for a few days and then fade," Shilts writes.

According to Shilts, Dugas would turn on the bathroom light after an encounter and point at the purple lesions on his chest.

"Gay cancer. Maybe you'll get it too," Shilts quotes Dugas as telling his sexual partners.

Shilts contends in his book that "AIDS did not simply happen to America; it was allowed to happen."

Relying heavily on Freedom of Information Act requests, Shilts details a story of alleged government misdeeds, scientific infighting, blood bank greed, and political squabbling among gay leaders that allowed the disease to march on practically un-



Violeta Chamorro holds up first issue of La Prensa, published again last week after suspension of more than a year.

Presses roll again at Nicaragua's La Prensa

Nicaragua's opposition newspaper has been told by the government that it can resume publication after a 15-month ban. Peter Ford looks at the rebirth of the 61-year-old publication.

MANAGUA — The recent reopening of La Prensa, the newspaper banned for the last 15 months, may not be the biggest step Nicaragua's Sandinista government will have to take towards democracy under Central America's new peace plan. But it is certainly the most symbolic.

The country's sole opposition daily has won its reputation not so much for the quality of its reporting as for the tenacity of its independence from Nicaragua's rulers.

Under former editor Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, La Prensa became the leading voice of protest against the Somoza dictatorship. Under Chamorro's wife, Violeta, it developed into a champion of dissent from the Sandinistas.

The 61-year-old paper's history is tightly bound up with the history of the 1979 Sandinista re-

volution. And for many observers, particularly U.S. congressmen, its fate has become a touchstone by which to judge that revolution.

It was Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's assassination in 1978 which was the catalyst for broad support for the Sandinista cause, and which drew international attention to the brewing insurrection in Nicaragua.

Mrs. Chamorro took the paper over, maintaining its fiercely anti-Somoza line, until shelling by government troops forced her to close a few days before the July 19, 1979 revolution.

In the mantle of her martyred husband's name, Mrs. Chamorro was a member of the first revolutionary junta. She resigned after nine months, however, pleading health problems.

Political differences with the

Sandinistas were the real reason for her departure, as became clear from La Prensa's increasingly hostile attitude to the new regime. Subjected to censorship in 1982, the afternoon daily failed to appear dozens of times when the censor had left gaping holes in news pages.

When the U.S. Congress voted \$100 million in aid to the contra guerrillas in June 1986, the Sandinistas retaliated by closing La Prensa indefinitely, accusing it of "provocation, disinformation and seeking to justify North American aggression" against Nicaragua.

The paper's tortured relationship with the Sandinista revolution is reflected in the starkest terms in the Chamorro family's political divisions. Mrs. Chamorro's elder son, Pedro Joaquin Jr., is a member of the contras' political directorate. Her younger son, Carlos Fernando, is editor of the Sandinista party organ, Baricada. Her elder daughter,

Claudia, is the Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica. Her second daughter, Cristiana, is editorial page editor of La Prensa.

Over the 15 months in which the newspaper has been closed, many of its reporters have left Nicaragua, and much of its equipment has been sold in order to pay salaries, according to Mrs. Chamorro. This may delay its reopening and will certainly complicate operations.

Mrs. Chamorro has said she is counting on donations from "friendly newspapers abroad" to keep La Prensa running, although this is a politically delicate issue.

While the paper was publishing, the Sandinistas regularly accused it of receiving covert funds from the U.S. government.

"We will have to assume that La Prensa will not be living only off 20-peso subscriptions from 60,000 readers," a senior official said. Financial Times feature.

Despite emergence of other prizes, Nobels remain unchallenged

By Alan Elsner
Reuters

STOCKHOLM — Baron Stig Ramel says of a Nobel Prize: "It is the Olympic gold medal of intellectuals."

More than 2,000 prizes are awarded around the world each year for scientific or artistic achievement, but the director of Sweden's Nobel Foundation said in an interview: "We were the first in the field and we remain pre-eminent."

The will of Swedish dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel established five prizes — for physics, chemistry, medicine, literature and peace. They were awarded for the first time in 1901. The economics prize was added in 1969.

The first of this year's winners — the medicine laureate — will be announced on October 12.

"Each winner in some sense inherits the prestige of his predecessors and so the prestige of the Nobels grows year by year," Ramel told Reuters.

So does the media hullabaloo surrounding the winners, who can be elevated from relative obscurity to media personalities and in some cases national heroes.

The Swedish foreign ministry estimates that around one third of all the words written about Sweden in the world's press relate

to the prizes, nearly all of them positive.

"For 10 months of the year, I'm in business, handling the Nobel funds from which the prize money — this year 2,175,000 Swedish crowns (\$337,000) — is drawn," said Ramel.

"For the other two months, between the announcement of the awards and the actual prize-giving ceremonies in December, I'm in show business," he said.

The prize-giving ceremony and subsequent banquets in Oslo and Stockholm, once quiet affairs with a few dozen guests, have become elite social gatherings with thousands of participants.

"We are very proud of the prizes, like the British are proud of their royal family," said Bengt Feldreich, a journalist who for 25 years has hosted a round table discussion between the winners of the scientific prizes televised to eight European countries.

But he added: "It has definitely become much harder for the winners to handle themselves."

"From the moment the news is announced, their normal lives are gone. They are swamped with requests for interviews or lectures. They can forget about work for months."

The winners have changed, too. Twenty years ago, scientists were inclined to shun publicity and dismiss the idea that they

should be concerned at the social implications of their work.

"Now, they are very aware of the need to inform the public of where science is heading and winning the prize gives them a unique opportunity to do that," said Feldreich.

Winners may be asked for their views on subjects far outside their fields of expertise — "anything from shoe-laces to nuclear energy" as the 1981 medicine prize winner Roger Sperry put it.

In the case of one winner — the laureate for peace awarded by the Norwegian Nobel Institute — winning the prize may change his life for ever.

"Winning the peace prize gives a unique platform for people to pursue their cause. Look at Bishop Desmond Tutu (winner in 1984). The prize made him a world personality," said Ramel.

Other peace prize awards have been more controversial. The 1973 choice of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and North Vietnamese diplomat Le Duc Tho for their efforts to end the Vietnam war was criticised.

So was the 1978 prize award, to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin for negotiating an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

The Nobel selection committee has never retracted a peace prize award or conceded it might have

made a mistake, although earlier decisions have been criticised by newer committee members, said Norwegian Nobel Institute Director Jakob Sverdrup.

"But such criticism never goes beyond the committee room's four walls," he told Reuters.

"The committee also puts a lot of emphasis on research into candidates. And although some of the prizes have been controversial, the committee has generally picked the right winners in international terms," he said.

Ramel said: "There have been very few mistakes. The fact that scientists all over the world strive to win the prize shows how much it is valued among the professionals."

He believes the prizes are a powerful force for good.

Randa Habib's

Bizarre bazaars

DIFFERENT bazaars being organised in Amman these days aim at raising funds for charity. In this spirit people attend these bazaars. But people involved in these charitable drives complain that the whole spirit is changing. First, they say, they find only with great difficulty people to donate items to be sold at these bazaars. Even more, the organisers complain that these bazaars are becoming a business outlet for traders who display their merchandise and in return only pay the fee of JD 5 a day as a "rent" for the stand. Whatever profit they do go to their pockets, and none to charity.

So what is really happening is that shops, under the guise of charity, are making money through the bazaars; and that charitable societies only get between 10 and 20 per cent of the whole profit, while the rest goes in private enterprises.

An example of this is the German Ladies bazaar, whose profit goes to the SOS Village and more recently to the Dar Al Salam Society. Four years ago the bazaar of the German Ladies yielded JD 5,000 in charity. Last year it only managed JD 1,000, because most of the profit went to the exhibitors.

This is a great injustice to all charitable organisations. People attend bazaars in order to help needy people. So the idea of the bazaars should remain what it was in the past, a place where people in the name of charity buy goods donated by benevolent people. And certainly not just another business for private enterprises.

Japan experiments with sonic fish farming

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

SAIKI, Japan — Red Sea bream may not like piano melodies, but play them the note E on a synthesiser and they're yours.

Scientists in Japan are experimenting with a sort of sonic fish farming, in which fish are attracted by sounds broadcast underwater in a bay at feeding time. Though free to swim out to sea, many fish stay permanently in the bay.

The idea takes the methods of Soviet scientist Ivan Pavlov, father of the conditioned reflex, into deep water.

Instead of training dogs to salivate at the sound of a bell, as Pavlov did, scientists at Saiki on the Pacific coast of Kyushu island have persuaded Red Sea bream to huddle round a food trough at the sound of the synthesiser.

Akira Yasumura, director of the publicly-funded mariculture experimental station, said the method could prove commercially viable.

Fish at the institute are probably reared more cheaply than those in ordinary fish farms and they taste as good as fish caught in the open sea, he said.

"If you raise fish under the conventional farming methods, they grow more greasy and fatty than natural fish," he said. "But the fish we raise taste like any others."

His institute raises bream from eggs and releases them into a small coastal area enclosed by nets when they reach 12 mm in length.

"Then we condition the fish acoustically for between 30 and 60 days, combining sound waves and feeding until they reach 10 cm in length," said Yasumura.

"When they have learned the sound waves and are conditioned to respond, we release them into the ranch."

The "ranch" is a bay which has no barriers to keep the fish in-

side. They are free to swim out to sea, and many of them do.

But an estimated 20 per cent are kept in the bay by the synthesised beeps in E, broadcast by two solar-powered buoys moored in the bay.

"We need them six times a day between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. We emit the sound for about eight minutes, in the middle of which feed is released for about one minute," said Yasumura.

"After a year, they are commercially saleable and we can harvest them."

He said that in conventional fish farming, 70 per cent of overheads go on labour and feed. But the mariculture method requires very few employees and not much feed.

"The fish depend largely on natural food to survive. We only release enough to keep them around," he explained.

When the experiments started in 1983, the bream were treated to piano melodies and drum solos.

"But the fish didn't like the mixture of high and low tones. It confused them. So we switched to the synthesiser," Yasumura said.

He said he knew of only one other place in the world working on the same idea. "Soviet experts who visited us last year said they were doing something similar with rainbow trout in the Baltic," he said.

Inspired by the mariculture experiment, a fishing community nearby has installed two sonic feed buoys of its own and a solar generator to power them for a total cost of about 60 million yen (\$400,000).

Japanese long-range fishing fleets have faced increasing problems in recent years as more countries enforce 200-mile economic zones.

Yasumura believes sonic fish farming, which should work for all types of fish, could produce cheap supplies in Japan's own coastal waters.

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Kasparov, Karpov clash in world title chess match

By Jonathan Tisdall
Reuters

SEVILLE, Spain — Anatoly Karpov is expected to press for an early advantage when his world chess title challenge against champion Garry Kasparov begins on Monday.

In the opening ceremony on Saturday night, Karpov drew the white pieces and this edge should give the former champion an early initiative in the first game. "I am very optimistic," Karpov, 36, told a news conference on Saturday. "Kasparov is at full strength but I am confident of my strength."

Kasparov, 24, who wrested the title Karpov had held for a decade in 1985, was similarly self-assured at an earlier news conference.

"I cannot be sure of the result (of Monday's game) but I am confident of the result of the match," he said.

Besides the prestige of the title, the two Soviet grandmasters are

ish set of standard design, though with certain modifications.

They refused to play with rooks shaped in the symbol of a Moorish tower, one of the city symbols, and chose knights of a design that Karpov had rejected for the previous match.

Last-minute disagreements were possible, although O'Connell said it was "unlikely, except perhaps about the lighting."

A city better known for its guitars and flamenco, Seville was also an early venue for chess. The game, which originated in India, came to Europe through the Moors, whose medieval empire extended to cities in southern Spain.

Kasparov and Karpov have played 100 games against each other, including three previous bouts for the world title.

The current match will be a 24-game series with victory going to the first player to score 12½ points. In the event of a 12-12 tie, Kasparov, as champion, retains his title.

Monday's first game was due to start at 4.30 p.m. (1530 GMT). Karpov hit back Saturday at rival Kasparov, accusing the world champion of omitting important information from his autobiography "Child of Change."

Speaking at a news conference before the opening of his world title match with Kasparov, Karpov said the accusations made against him were part of the pre-match "psychological war" between the protagonists.

Kevin O'Connell, a technical adviser, said the players had in principle agreed on the chess pieces to be used. After much discussion, they accepted a Span-

Formula 1 racing changes

By Salvatore Zanca
The Associated Press

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, Spain (AP) — With three races remaining in 1987, the jockeying among drivers, engine manufacturers and race organisers for the 1988 Grand Prix season is in full swing.

But as the teams pack their bags and tons of equipment after the final European race of the season and head for the Mexican Grand Prix on Oct. 18, it already is clear that the 1988 tour will have a different look when it opens in Brazil next March.

At a news conference prior to the Spanish Grand Prix, FIA president Jean-Marie Balestre told of problems on the tour, such as with the Grand Prix of Canada. That race was abruptly dropped this year after a dispute over the sponsorship and racing conditions.

Balestre also mentioned difficulties with the circuits at Detroit and Monza but declined to elaborate. He even hinted at the possibility of a future Grand Prix in Moscow, following the success of the Hungarian Grand Prix the last two seasons.

Who will race in those events, and with what teams and equipment, also is changing.

For example, Nelson Piquet, the Brazilian leading the world drivers standings with 70 points, is scheduled to jump from Williams to British rival Lotus for 1988.

At Lotus, Piquet will replace another Brazilian, Ayrton Senna, who moves to McLaren to team with two-time world champion Alain Prost.

Where that puts Sweden's Stefan Johansson, Prost's current teammate and fifth in the drivers standing, is unknown.

Piquet's exit from Williams is happy news for teammate Nigel Mansell, who won the Spanish Grand Prix to retain a slim chance of overtaking Piquet for the season title. Mansell, second with 52 points, and Piquet have duelled on and off the track for the last two seasons, with the Brazilian's car was getting better pre-race attention.

Next year, Mansell will be the no. 1 driver for Williams, teamed with Italy's Riccardo Patrese. Patrese is leaving the Brabham team with the full endorsement of owner Bernie Ecclestone, leading to reports that Brabham may pull out of Formula One racing.

Williams, which is running away with the manufacturers championship for the second year in a row, also will be changing engines. It will replace its Hondas with Judd engines, with an eye on 1989 when all cars must have conventionally aspirated powerplants instead of the turbocharged engines that have dominated recent seasons.



FIGUREHEAD... Caryn Kadavy, the bronze medalist in this year's ice skating world championships, strikes an appropriate pose for someone whose mother danced for the Pittsburgh ballet. Kadavy is the favourite to take the women's event in the first major championship of the new season.

Annacone downs Lendl

ATLANTA, Georgia (AP) — Paul Annacone upset top-ranked Ivan Lendl 6-3, 6-2 in a semifinal match of the A-T-and-T challenge tennis tournament Saturday, giving Annacone, ranked 41st in the world, victories over the world's top two players in consecutive days.

In Sunday's final, Annacone will meet John McEnroe, who defeated Jimmy Connors 6-4, 6-4 in Saturday's other semifinal.

Annacone defeated no. 2 Stefan Edberg of Sweden Friday in the round-robin phase of the \$300,000 exhibition event.

"My biggest problem is that I haven't been able to beat the big guys consistently, but it's real nice now to beat no. 1 and no. 2 in a row," said Annacone, who was invited to the event to replace the injured Joakim Nyström of Sweden.

The native of Bridgehampton, New York, won his only pro singles title in 1985 in Los Angeles.

"I just couldn't hit any balls in," Lendl, a Czechoslovak citizen who lives in Greenwich, Connecticut, said. "He served very well and I didn't return well. I had shots. I just didn't make them. He was guessing well. He was crowding the net, and what it all comes down to is 6-3, 6-2."

After winning the first set on a

Sulayem wins Lebanon rally

JOUNIEH, Lebanon (R) — Mohammad Bin Sulayem of the United Arab Emirates won Lebanon's Mountain Rally on Sunday to take the lead in the Middle East drivers' championship.

No violent incidents were reported during the three-day rally, held over twisting hill roads through areas east and north of Beirut which are generally regarded as safe from warring militias.

Sulayem and British co-driver John Spiller clocked four hours 25 minutes 02 seconds in their Opel Manta 400.

The win took Sulayem to the top of the Middle East drivers' table with 88 points against 78 for Said El Hajri of Qatar, who did not compete in Lebanon.

Final placings will be decided in the last two — in Oman and Dubai — of the season's six Middle East rallies.

Second and third on Sunday were Lebanon's Michel Saleh with 4:25:31 hours and Samir Ghanem with 4:27:06.

Former Swedish champion Ola Stromberg came fifth. One of the favourites, Dini Mavropoulos of Cyprus, registered as a British

entry, quit after electrical trouble with his Ford Cosworth. Only 28 of the 70 starters finished as faults and accidents took their toll, but there were no serious crashes.

The second and final section of Lebanon's Mountain Rally began on Saturday with Sulayem in the lead but without 18 original starters.

Sulayem was equal on time with Lebanon's Samir Ghanem in a Nissan 240 RS when the first section ended soon after dawn but was declared leader because he won the first speed test.

Eighteen of the 70 cars which started the rally on Friday dropped out before the final section because of mechanical trouble or other reasons.

Sulayem is current leader of the Middle East Rally Drivers Championship, for which the Lebanese Rally counts for the first time.

The event is being held under tight security, imposed by the Lebanese Army and Lebanese Christian Forces militia, on roads east and north of Beirut regarded as safe from civil war fighting.

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Sulayem is current leader of the Middle East Rally Drivers Championship, for which the Lebanese Rally counts for the first time.

The event is being held under tight security, imposed by the Lebanese Army and Lebanese Christian Forces militia, on roads east and north of Beirut regarded as safe from civil war fighting.

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6 Indian soldiers and 50 Tamil rebels killed in battles

COLOMBO (Agencies) — At least 50 Tamil separatist fighters and six Indian peacekeeping soldiers have been killed in a major three-day outbreak of fighting, the Sri Lankan government said on Sunday.

A government statement said 19 Indian security force members were wounded in the clashes that erupted in the north and east of the island in contravention of a peace pact aimed at ending four years of communal violence between minority Tamils and majority Sinhalese.

State-run radio earlier reported eight Indians killed. It was the first time Indian peacekeepers had been killed in clashes with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) since they arrived to enforce the July 29 pact.

Sri Lankan military officers said that despite the setback, Indian troops had vowed to continue a drive to disarm the Tigers. Under the July peace pact between Sri Lanka and India, all guerrillas were to have been disbanded by Aug. 15.

A Sri Lankan military spokesman said in the latest violence on Sunday two Indian soldiers were injured when their vehicle hit a landmine in Pooneryn in the northern district of Jaffna. In New Delhi, All India Radio said 50 Tamil rebels were killed early on Sunday in fierce fighting around the Sri Lankan army-held fort in the northern city of Jaffna.

It said two LTTE leaders were killed in battles that began when the Tigers attacked the fort with machine-guns and mortars.

More than 200 people, most of them Sinhalese, have died in the last five days in attacks blamed on Tamil militants.

The violence erupted following the suicide deaths Monday of 11 Tiger rebels in police custody.

A curfew has been clamped on Jaffna peninsula since early Saturday, and it will remain in force until 6 a.m. Monday, Colombo Radio said.

The Indian government reported Saturday that the peacekeeping force had been increased to more than 15,000 troops to deal with the rising violence. Earlier reports had put the troop strength at about 10,000.

Tamil sources in Colombo said that Indian troops have spread out across the entire Jaffna peninsula.

The troops were conducting house-to-house searches, said the sources, quoted by AP.

They said hundreds of Tamils, who ignored an order to register Indian army posts, have been detained.

There was no immediate confirmation of the allegation.

In the southern Indian city of Madras on Sunday, about 50 state police searched two houses used as offices by the Tigers.

A statement by the Tigers said the police were searching for communications equipment. It said no equipment was found and no arrests were made.

Most of the militant groups have exile headquarters in South India, which has 50 million ethnic Tamils among its population.

In another development, the district minister for the eastern Trincomalee district, H.G.P. Nelson, was injured in a grenade attack late Saturday, police said. His private secretary also was injured, they said.

The attack occurred at Polonnaruwa, which is about 80 kilometres south of Trincomalee.

It was believed to be the work of Sinhalese extremists opposed to the peace accord, police said. Many Sinhalese contend that the peace accord makes too many concessions to the minority Tamils and amounts to a division of the country.

Tamils make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million population. They claim discrimination by the majority Sinhalese, who control the government.

Militant Tamils launched a war for an independent homeland in 1983. More than 6,000 have died in the conflict.

Jackson hopes to prove election experts wrong

RALEIGH, North Carolina (Agencies) — Jesse Jackson is on the presidential campaign trail to prove wrong the political experts who say he cannot be elected.

Mr. Jackson, who officially entered the 1988 Democratic race here on Saturday, said those who dismiss his standing atop opinion polls as the product of name recognition — not political strength — are missing the point.

He attributed his status to a career of public service that has taken him from the black rights battlefields of the 1960s to the bargaining table with foreign leaders.

"If I grew up in Boston and my name was Jesse Joe Kennedy ... or in New York and my name was Jesse J. Rockefeller, I would have name recognition," he told 3,000 supporters here for his announcement speech.

"I wasn't born with it. I earned it," said the Rev. Jackson, who was born out of wedlock to a teenager in rural South Carolina.

Mr. Jackson told an Atlanta newspaper his wife was pregnant with their first child before they married, the newspaper said on Saturday.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution quoted Mr. Jackson as saying his wife's pregnancy at the time of their marriage has never been a secret.

Mr. Jackson said his situation differed markedly from that of Republican presidential candidate Pat Robertson, who was forced to admit earlier this week he had falsified his own marriage date on some of his biographical materials to cover up the out-of-wedlock conception of his first son.

Mr. Jackson said Saturday that his Democratic candidacy offered "bold leadership and a new direction."

"There is something wrong with our government's priorities today — its values are wrong," the 46-year-old Baptist preacher said. "It wears a military fig-leaf to cover its impotency."

"But there is nothing wrong with America. America is our land. America is God's country."

As in the 1984 campaign, Mr. Jackson is the last major Democratic candidate to formally announce his candidacy — this time filling out a six-man field for 1988.

China: Foreigners incited Lhasa unrest

PEKING (Agencies) — Some 50 foreigners were directly involved in the riot in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa on Oct. 1 in which at least six people died, according to a report carried by the official New China News Agency (NCNA).

The agency quoted an unnamed Lhasa police officer as saying that "at least 50 foreign tourists or foreign nationals in the capacity of tourists were spotted among the leading rioters attacking the Bajiaoze street police substation."

These foreigners were "throwing stones at the policemen, taking photos or inciting the rioters for further violence," it quoted him as saying in its report late on Saturday night.

Their direct involvement in the

riot is clear evidence of their ulterior motives, he said.

Four Westerners, including two Americans and a Briton, told Reuters in Lhasa several days ago that they had hurled stones during the riot, which began after the arrest of monks who had marched around a temple chanting pro-independence slogans.

The allegation that at least 50 foreigners took part in the disturbance goes far beyond what China has said previously.

The People's Daily on Oct. 4 stated that two foreigners were involved in the riot. Two Americans were ordered to leave China by Oct. 10 for having Tibetan flags in their possession.

Although many foreign visitors were in the vicinity of the Jokhang temple, one of Lhasa's

top tourist spots, when rioting broke out, most told reporters later that they were there by chance and were scared by what was happening.

The NCNA report said the riots were instigated by Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, and that many of the rioters were former prisoners.

The protests began Sept. 27 with a march by about two dozen Buddhist monks. Monks in Lhasa said two colleagues died after they were beaten by police in a third riot Oct. 6 that erupted during a march involving about 100 monks.

Foreign travellers arriving Saturday from Lhasa said police continued to man rooftops and occupy Buddhist lamaseries in the city.

Voter split threatens Seoul opposition

SONGNAM, South Korea (R) — South Korean opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung on Sunday gave his strongest hint yet that he would stand for president in December.

Analysis says this would split the opposition vote in the first free and direct presidential poll for 16 years.

Mr. Kim told a rally of more than 100,000 at Songnam, southwest of Seoul: "Many have stressed that if I give up a shot at the presidency, it means that I betray the people who support me."

"As a man who believes in democracy, I am not able to brush aside the opinion of most

people."

The crowds, chanting "Kim Dae-Jung, you should run for president," packed the park where the rally was held.

His long-time political rival Kim Young-Sam on Saturday declared his candidacy. The two

Kim, joint leaders of the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), had tried in vain to agree who should stand.

It now seems certain that both veteran campaigners for democracy will run, endangering their joint struggle to block the election of Roh Tae-Woo, President Chun Doo Hwan's choice for successor.

Republicans alter 'cover-up' draft of Iran-contra report

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some changes have been made in the secret draft report of the congressional Iran-contra committees in the wake of objections from Republicans on the panels, according to committee spokesmen.

The New York Times, in Sunday's editions, said conservative Republicans have secured major changes to a draft that compared the affair to the Watergate scandal and described a "cover-up" within President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Last month, Republican Congressmen Jim Courter and Henry Hyde, both members of the House of Representatives' investigating panel, attacked early drafts of the document, saying they did not believe majority Democrats would correct what they saw as fatal flaws.

They said they planned to write a minority version, joining with senators Orrin Hatch and James McClure.

A spokesman for the committee said it was hoped that dissenting Republican members would eventually agree to support the findings of the panel.

"There is an effort to get some Republicans to sign onto the report," said spokesman Robert Havel. "There are drafts continually being done."

However, he said some Republican members on the Senate and House of Representatives panels still were expected to issue a

dissenting minority supplement to the final report.

"There are changes being made constantly," said Lance Morgan, a spokesman for the Senate panel, but he refused to specify them.

The Times, quoting congressional officials, said the draft had been thoroughly rewritten in recent weeks and made less accusatory.

Havel said recent drafts he had seen did not contain any comparisons with Watergate.

Mr. Hyde and Mr. Courter said they were upset that early drafts implied that Mr. Reagan could have known of the diversion of Iran arms sale proceeds to Nicaraguan contra rebels and assumed the National Security Council violated the Boland Amendment, a congressional prohibition on military aid to the contras.

They also objected to what they said was overly sharp criticism of Attorney General Edwin Meese for his holding of the investigation of the affair as it began to unravel last November.

Havel said at the time that "we knew there was going to be dissent and that there would be strong feelings... but there are extensive changes being made in some of the sections."

The report by the select congressional committees, which held hearings during the summer, is to be released at the end of October.

Swedish police trace escaped spy to Finland

STOCKHOLM (R) — A car hired as a getaway vehicle for convicted Soviet spy Stig Bergling, who escaped while on a conjugal visit to his wife in Stockholm, has been found in Finland, Swedish police said on Saturday.

A police spokesman told Reuters a white Opel Ascona hired by Bergling's wife shortly before the couple disappeared had been found in a car park in the suburbs of Helsinki.

"It looks like the car has been there for a few days," he said. A squad of Swedish police officers was on its way to Finland to check the car, he added.

Bergling, 50, and his wife Elisabeth Sandberg, are now thought to be heading for or are already in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet border is only 180 kilometres from the Finnish capital.

Bergling was jailed for life in 1979 after being found guilty of selling military secrets to the Soviet Union.

He was released from a provincial jail on Monday for a 24-hour visit to his wife's flat but the couple slipped away after police left them unguarded.

Embarrassed security police and prison authorities have blamed each other for the escape. Opposition Conservative Party leaders have called for the resignation of Justice Minister Sten Wickbom.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson ordered a top-level investigation into the affair and said it had shown serious shortcomings in the police and penal system.

Hunt leader says 'something large' hiding in Loch Ness

DRUMADROCHIT, Scotland (Agencies) — Organisers of the biggest scientific expedition for the Loch Ness monster have said they couldn't deliver the elusive Nessie. But they said they're convinced something large is hiding in the murky waters.

Adrian Shine, leader of Operation Deepscan, said Saturday he was pleased with three strong sonar contacts in the middle of the Loch, he said he would be very satisfied if they turned out to be generated by, perhaps a very, very large fish.

But he told about 200 reporters at a news conference that he was sure they were all "very, very disappointed" because you want me to deliver a monster... what I call the media monster.

Shine also presented a video film debunking one of the most famous pictures of the supposed monster.

He said the expedition discovered a rotting tree stump 6.6 metres beneath the surface on the side of Urquhart Bay. The stump resembles a 1975 picture of a gargoyle-shaped head that zoologists had said could belong to the monster. The picture was taken by the Academy of Applied Science in Concord, New Hampshire, on an expedition led by Dr. Robert Rines.

Nessie stayed out of sight Saturday, and Shine said no significant sonar contacts were made during the 7½-hour probe of the Loch, although several contacts were reported.

Hundreds of tourists flocked to the shores of Loch Ness to watch 20 motorboats and four support boats with U.S.-made sonar scan its 228.5-metre depths for the second day.

But it was one of the three

Two whites killed in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Two white men were stabbed to death outside a Johannesburg stadium where a South African rugby team played a touring squad from the South Pacific, police sources said on Sunday.

Seven people were injured and 14 people arrested during holiday weekend clashes in several suburban Johannesburg parks, police reported.

The official report mentioned the Saturday deaths of the two white men but did not say where they were stabbed.

Police sources said the victims were men in their 50s killed outside Ellis Park stadium, where an estimated 20,000 people watched the South African team defeat the South Pacific side 56-30.

The other clashes on Saturday night were mostly in parks in working class white neighbourhoods where hundreds of blacks had gone to picnic, police and witnesses said.

Tear-gas was used in some areas to disperse crowds, according to an official police statement. The statement did not link the incidents to political unrest.

Police were attacked with stones and bottles when summoned to restore order as mobs ran out of the parks into streets damaging houses, motor vehicles and shops, eyewitnesses said.

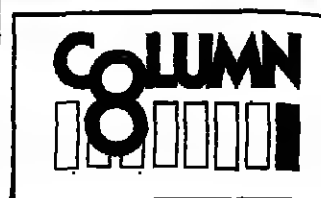
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Homosexuals stage mass 'wedding'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of homosexual couples cheered and threw rice at a mass "wedding" ceremony held in the middle of a street Saturday as they protested religious and social barriers against their relationships. The ceremony, held in the street between the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) building and the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, was one event during six days of lobbying and protests by homosexuals in the nation's capital. "This weekend, Washington, D.C., is ours," the Rev. Troy Perry, a founder of the Metropolitan Community Churches, told the crowd. Police estimated 5,000 people gathered on Constitution Avenue for the brief ceremony. "This is a civil rights movement and we are not sick," said Robin Tyler, a member of the steering committee of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. A handful of counterdemonstrators carrying American flags and banners quoting from the Bible stood on the steps of the IRS building and shouted at the crowd through a bullhorn.

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Iran says major carpet smugglers held

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps has smashed what was described as the largest carpet smuggling ring in the country, arresting all 18 members, the official Iranian Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Saturday. The agency said the ring was trying to smuggle 1,700 hand-woven silk carpets worth 2 billion Iranian rials (\$42 million) to Arab countries, West Germany, Britain and the United States. The carpets were to be shipped from the port of Chah Bahar in Sistan-Baluchistan province on the Gulf of Oman, the agency said. The smugglers were arrested in the town of Iranshahr, where they operated under the cover of two phone companies, the agency reported. The smugglers also had a hideout in Tehran where 600 more precious carpets were seized by the authorities, IRNA added.

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